

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3086.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1886.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN,
Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, W.

CHRISTMAS LECTURES.

Lecture Hour, 3 o'clock P.M.

Professor DEWAR, M.A. F.R.S. M.R.I.—Six Lectures (adapted to a Juvenile Audience), on the Chemistry of Light and Photography (with experimental illustrations). On December 28 (TUESDAY), December 30, 1886, January 1, 4, 6, 8, 1887. One Guinea the Course; Children under 14, Half-a-Guinea.

AFTERNOON LECTURES BEFORE EASTER, 1887.

Lecture Hour, 3 o'clock P.M.

Professor ARTHUR GAMGEE, M.D. F.R.S.—Eleven Lectures on the Function of Respiration. On TUESDAYS, January 15 to March 29. One Guinea.

Professor A. W. RUCKER, M.A. F.R.S. M.R.I.—Five Lectures on Molecular Forces. On THURSDAYS, January 20, 27, February 3, 10, 17, Half-a-Guinea.

EDMUND GOSSE, Esq., M.A., Clerk Lecturer in English Literature, Trinity College, Cambridge.—Three Lectures on the Critics of the Age of Ass. On THURSDAYS, February 24, March 3, 10. Half-a-Guinea.

Professor F. MAX MÜLLER, M.A. LL.D.—Three Lectures on the Science of Thought. On THURSDAYS, March 17, 24, 31. Half-a-Guinea.

CARL ARMBRUSTER, Esq.—Five Lectures on Modern Composers of Classical Song. On SATURDAYS, January 23, 29, February 5, 12, 19, One Guinea.

The Right Hon. LORD RAYLEIGH, M.A. D.C.L. LL.D. F.R.S. M.R.I.—Six Lectures on Sound. On SATURDAYS, February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2. One Guinea.

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The FRIDAY EVENING MEETINGS will begin on JANUARY 21, at 8 P.M., when Sir WILLIAM THOMSON will give a Discourse on 'The Probable Origin, the Total Amount, and the Possible Duration of the Ice Age.' At 9 P.M. Successive Discourses will probably be given by Mr. W. BALDWIN BERNER, Mr. E. FRESHFIELD, Mr. E. H. POULTON, Mr. W. CROOKES, Captain ARNEY, Mr. VICTOR HOBLEY, Ven. Archdeacon FAIRBAIRN, Mr. G. J. ROMANES, the Right Hon. LORD RAYLEIGH, and other gentlemen. To these Meetings Members and their Friends only are admitted.

Persons desirous of becoming Members are requested to apply to the Secretary. When proposed they are immediately admitted to all the Lectures, to the Friday Evening Meetings, and to the Library and Reading-Rooms; and their Families are admitted to the Lectures at a reduced charge. Payment: First Year, Ten Guineas; afterwards, Five Guineas a Year; or a composition of Sixty Guineas.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, 22, Albemarle-street.—MONDAY, December 20, 4 P.M. A Paper will be read by Professor S. BEAL, 'Some Remarks on the Narrative of Fa-Hien.' F. J. GOLDSMID, Secretary.

ARISTOTELIAN SOCIETY, 22, Albemarle-street, W.—A MEETING will be held on MONDAY, December 20th, at 8 P.M., when Mr. H. W. CAREY will read a Paper on 'Malebranche.' F. J. GOLDSMID, Secretary.

SOUTH PLACE CHAPEL, FINSBURY.
GEO. J. ROMANES, Esq., M.A. F.R.S., will deliver a Discourse on SUNDAY MORNING, December 19th. Subject—'The Mental Evolution in Man: Christ as Moral Teacher.' Service at 11.15 A.M.

LECTURE (New) by Mr. HENRY WALKER, F.R.S., 'Animals with more than Two Eyes: Recent Studies in Zoology.' With Thirty Lantern Illustrations. Limelight. Arthropoda, Mollusca, Vertebrata.—Watson's Library, 97, Westbourne-grove, London, W.

TO SCULPTORS and MEDALLISTS.—The COUNCIL of the ART UNION of LONDON offer THREE PREMIUMS, of £50, £25, and £20, for DESIGNS for a MEDAL to CELEBRATE the JUBILEE YEAR of the REIGN of Her Majesty the QUEEN. The Obverse to be a contemporary Head and Shoulder Portrait of the Queen, the Reverse a figure-subject of some event in British History during the Reign of Queen Victoria. The Competition is to be by Models in Plaster, six inches in diameter; the finished Medal will be three inches in diameter. The Model and Copyright of the Design selected for execution will become the property of the Art Union. The Council reserve the right of withholding any or all of the Premiums if designs of adequate merit be not sent in, as also the right of dividing any premium if thought desirable. The Models are to be sent to this Office not later than 2 o'clock on February 1st next, accompanied by a sealed letter containing the name and address of the Artist, and bearing a stamp referring to the Model. The Competition is confined to British Artists. A number of the Medals in Silver and Bronze will be given as Prizes in the next Distribution. ZOUCH TROUGHTON, Hon. Sec. 112, Strand, December 2nd, 1886.

PHOTOGRAPHY, AQUATINT, and TYPOGRAPHY.—Messrs. BOUSSOD, VALADON & Co. respectfully give notice that, on account of the pressure of orders, there will necessarily be some DELAY in the DELIVERY of PROOFS until the New Year, but measures are being taken to cope with the constantly increasing number of Plates on hand.—The Goupil Gallery, 116 and 117, New Bond-street, December 15th, 1886.

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WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.—There will take place, on January 11th, 12th, and 13th, an EXAMINATION to fill up Two or more Vacancies on the Foundation.—Further information may be obtained by applying to the HEAD MASTER, Dean's-yard.

NOTICE.—CHRISTMAS WEEK.—The ATHENÆUM for December 25 will be published on FRIDAY NEXT, December 24, at Eleven o'clock.—Advertisements for this issue must be at the Office as early in the week as possible, but not later than Eleven o'clock on THURSDAY.

PARIS.—The ATHENÆUM can be obtained on SATURDAY of Messrs. H. HAUDRY-JEANCOURT & CO., the Gallanai Library, 224, Rue de Rivoli.

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PRELIM. SCIENTIFIC EXAM. M.B. LONDON. STUDENTS who Matriculate in January and others are informed that a PRACTICAL CLASS in BIOLOGY (Animal portion), under the direction of Prof. HAY LANKESTER, F.R.S., will commence at the end of JANUARY at University College, Gower-street. Similar Courses commence on MAY 5th and OCTOBER 2nd.

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Entries may be made to Lectures or to Hospital Practice, and special arrangements are made for Students entering in their second or subsequent years; also for Dental Students and for qualified Practitioners. Prospectuses and all particulars may be obtained from the Medical Secretary, Mr. GEORGE KENDLE. W. M. ORD, Dean.

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CONTENTS.

| | PAGE |
|--|---------|
| THE HAYWARD CORRESPONDENCE | 817 |
| THE HEBREW MANUSCRIPTS AT THE BODLEIAN ... | 819 |
| MARY STUART'S EARLY LIFE | 820 |
| JACK AND THE BEAN-STALK | 821 |
| NOVELS OF THE WEEK | 822 |
| CHRISTMAS BOOKS | 823 |
| LIBRARY TABLE—LIST OF NEW BOOKS | 824 |
| TO THE HON. HALLAM TENNYSON; OXFORD MATRICU- LATIONS; THE ITALIAN ASIATIC SOCIETY; THE ARTICLE "SHORTHAND" IN THE 'ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA'; DANTE ROSSETTI'S WORKS; J. N. MADVIG | 825-826 |
| LITERARY GOSSIP | 826 |
| SCIENCE—RECENT PUBLICATIONS; ASTRONOMICAL NOTES; GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES; SOCIETIES; MEET- INGS; GOSSIP | 828-831 |
| FINE ARTS—CHRISTMAS BOOKS; NEW PRINTS; MR. JOHN BRETT'S SKETCHES; GOSSIP | 831-833 |
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| DRAMA—MORRIS'S GYCIA; LIBRARY TABLE; GOSSIP ... | 835 |

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It is too much of a skeleton biography of Hayward, so far as he has attempted to give one at all, which Mr. Carlisle has printed; and it will, therefore, be disappointing to those who knew the man himself, and may be somewhat misleading to those who did not. His best qualities—his indomitable industry, his laborious honesty, and his literary versatility—are more or less clearly indicated; but it would appear from these published letters that he was by no means so brilliant, humorous, or "elegant" in letter-writing as he was in his unstudied talk or in his studied authorship. Such as they are, however, and with their abundant illustrations of other people's characteristics, Mr. Carlisle's volumes are welcome.

Hayward (it would be cruel to speak of him as Abraham Hayward, seeing that "he never signed his full Christian name, for he hated it, and could not bear the least allusion to it") was a notable specimen of a

fairly successful literary man who, wanting to do other things as well, was forced by circumstances to make literature, chiefly ephemeral, the one serious business of his life, to his progress in which all his social diversions and political interests conduced. His father was a well-to-do country gentleman, and he was born at Wilton in 1801. In his eighth year he went to Bath to live as a private pupil with Mr. Francis Twiss, whose wife was "the loveliest of Mrs. Siddons's sisters" and aunt of Fanny Kemble. "I never took much to Fanny," he wrote when he was nearly eighty of his experiences before he was ten: "generally speaking she was not agreeable. I used to make love à la manière to Adelaide." Another of his earliest sweethearts, and a "school-fellow," was a Miss Searle, who afterwards married his tutor's famous son Horace Twiss, and who befriended him when he settled in London. Before that, however, he had finished his schooling at Tiverton and kept his articles with a Somersetshire solicitor, in whose house he found a good library which he was encouraged to make ample use of. In 1823 he was a qualified solicitor, but he immediately obtained permission to change his profession, and it is with 1824, when he entered himself at the Inner Temple, that Mr. Carlisle's detailed report of his career commences.

He read law diligently, but attended to other things than law from the first. He was one of the earliest members, after the founders, of the London Debating Society, in which Mill, Roebuck, Charles Austen, Charles Butler, and others propounded philosophic Radicalism; and Mill, in his 'Autobiography,' mentions Hayward and the late Serjeant Shee as the "two excellent Tory speakers" with whom chiefly they had to contend. Other besides legal associations also grew up for him from his connexion with the *Law Magazine*, which he edited from its starting in 1828 till 1844. A visit to Germany had for one of its results the publication in 1831 of his prose translation of 'Faust,' which was issued, as he modestly said, in order to "keep public opinion suspended concerning Goethe" (about whom "very disadvantageous impressions had hitherto been prevalent") "till some poet of congenial spirit should arise, capable of doing justice to this the most splendid and interesting of his works." That translation made his reputation. "Society became interested," Mr. Carlisle says, "and opened its ranks to welcome one who had just received the brevet of 'man of letters.'" More profitable, if hardly more agreeable, than all the dinner invitations he received were the requests made to him by Lockhart and Bulwer to contribute to the *Quarterly* and the *Monthly*.

The first of Hayward's letters printed by Mr. Carlisle is by far the longest. It is a gossiping account of a foreign tour which he made in 1834, and in the course of which he was introduced to Manzoni and other celebrated persons, including the Countess Guiccioli at Geneva:—

"I had been relating some anecdote about Nicolini or Manzoni to Madame de Sismondi, which she requested me to repeat to the Countess — (I did not catch the name); and directly afterwards I found myself seated by the side of a lively, coquettish-looking woman, with hand-

some, expressive features, gold-tinted hair a little inclining to auburn, a complexion of dazzling fairness, and, what no one will I am sure deny to her, the plumpest, firmest, and whitest of busts.....The English who met her at the public table there did not seem to be so much struck with her, and complained of boldness and affectation. But great allowance must be made for her singular position in society, which may well prevent her feeling quite at ease amongst Englishwomen; and it is hard to condemn the manners of a foreigner for not according with a purely conventional standard of our own."

Those sentences are characteristic of the writer; and so are these, written on the eve of the general election in 1834:—

"Hobhouse is standing for Aylesbury with a good chance—so he will soon have franks of his own. Twiss is gone off to Bridport, contrary to my express advice. He will simply make a fool of himself, and spend more money than he can afford. Many of my other friends are making fools of themselves in the same way. If they get in they won't stay in, for I think this Ministry extremely uncertain. I am told they would give me a place if I chose to risk a contest for any of the numerous places that are invoking Conservative candidates, but I would not accept a seat in Parliament if I could have it for the asking; nor do I think it of any use to any man who has not a large independent fortune. No one young man of my set has made anything by it but Macaulay, and he is in India. It is all vanity and vexation of spirit, and so they will find out ere long."

Beginning his London life as a Tory, Hayward attached himself to the Peelites, and seems to have never differed widely in politics from Mr. Gladstone. But his most intimate friends half a century ago were in "the best London society," of which "I am now a regular member," he said, and "by which I do not mean the highest in mere rank, but that which includes all the most distinguished politicians, lawyers, poets, painters, men of science, wits, &c., along with the most enlightened of the aristocracy." Balls he generally shunned because they were "too late," and dinners he found too early, "except on Saturdays and Sundays, because I am often engaged in business till nine." But "I can spend every evening in the pleasantest parties if I like, and I do spend a good many so." He was acquainted with many men of note at that time, and with many notable and attractive women, and the dinners or suppers with which he entertained guests of both sexes in King's Bench Walk gained a reputation for the wit that was heard there as well as for the cooking. "You know we have never had a dull dinner in those sacred chambers," Mrs. Norton wrote in 1844—"sacred" only to the memory of excellent jests and brilliant observations; otherwise 'sacré' or cursed, and lying under the ban of a great legal authority, as not to be rashly supped at by the fair sex." Eight years before that Hayward had written his celebrated article on 'Gastronomy and Gastronomers,' afterwards elaborated into his 'Art of Dining,' about which he confessed to his sisters:—

"The fact is I got up that article just as I would get up a speech from a brief, and I would not eat half the things mentioned in it if they paid me for it."

Mrs. Norton was one of Hayward's oldest and most intimate friends, and we have some charming letters from her. During thirty years she addressed Hayward as

"Dear Avocat," and signed herself his "Client," a custom which, Mr. Carlisle tells us, grew out of Hayward's dislike to his Christian name. "One day, when some lady who was bent on teasing him, asked him in her drawing-room what his 'A.' stood for, 'Arthur or Andrew,' Mrs. Norton, to cover his vexation, quickly replied to the lady, 'Oh, dear no, it stands for 'Avocat,' because Mr. Hayward is a lawyer.'" But the daintiest, perhaps, of all Mrs. Norton's letters was one signed "Horloge de Tic-tic," as it accompanied a clock she gave him, and purported to be written by the clock itself. We must quote part of it:—

"I have heard my donor say that she would give worlds to be able to send you a clock, whose works were warranted to make every hour of your life pass pleasantly, in gratitude for many hours of toil and trouble spent by you in that lady's cause. But since such miracles are not, accept me as a friend and companion, and I will endeavour to be a cheerful clock. I consider myself, if not equal to a man, at least better than a Dog, and therefore a fitter companion. (A dog moraliseth not; he lieth 'on the rug snoozing; he requirerth food daily.....He licketh, indeed, his master's hand and waggeth his tail, but what of that? Even the sloth crawlth and cateth leaves.) This is from a great author; and aptly describes the animal foolishly adopted as 'the friend and favourite of man.' How much nearer to a man's heart should his clock be than his dog. The clock hath part of his busiest hour; the dog, not so. The clock, as it were advises, nay almost commands; it points, as much as to say, it is time for that consultation with the Attorney-General; or get you gone to your Courts of Westminster; or, call your clerk, and get up that case, or those papers will not be copied in time. Can a dog do so? No. Stupidly he lieth, and when his master moves, up jumps Bow-wow, with the single idea that he shall now walk, run, or perchance bathe in the Serpentine! 'Twere as if a clock should always strike 'One,' let what would be the hour! Adieu! Hear me when I advise; that when the circle of Life's great dial is completed, and the ghosts of the Hours accompany the soul into another world, to give an account of its occupations in this, you may recognise none worse employed than those I came to recall; hours kindly, usefully, unselfishly, and I will hope happily spent; hours which are vanished for ever, and have left behind a grateful impression and your old clock."

In these playfully serious letters of Mrs. Norton's there may be some affectation, but there is plenty of true feeling and good sense. Here is a clever, if too satirical sketch of Samuel Rogers:—

"I suppose no man ever was so much attended to and thought of, who had so slender a fortune and such calm abilities. I am sure you will know what I mean: no man ever seemed so important, who did so little, aye, and said so little, (in spite of table-talk) for his fellow-men. His God was Harmony; and over his life Harmony presided, sitting on a lukewarm cloud. He was not the 'poet, sage, and philosopher' people expect to find he was, but a man in whom the tastes (rare fact!) preponderated over the passions; who defrayed the expenses of his tastes as other men make outlay for the gratification of their passions; all within limit of reason, he did not squander more than won the affection of his seraglio, the Nine Muses, nor bet upon Pegasus, though he entered him for the races when he had a fair chance of winning. He did nothing rash. I am sure Rogers as a baby never fell down, unless he was pushed; but walked from chair to chair of the drawing-room furniture steadily and quietly till he reached the

place where the sunbeam fell on the carpet. He must always have preferred a lullaby to the merriest game of romps; and if he could have spoken would have begged his long-clothes might be made of fine *Mull* muslin instead of cambric or jacquet, the first fabric being of incomparable softness, and the two latter capable of that which he loathed, starch. He was the very embodiment of quiet, from his voice to the last harmonious little picture that hung in his lulled room, and a curious figure he seemed—an elegant, pale watch-tower, showing for ever what a quiet port literature and the fine arts might offer, in an age of 'progress,' when every one is tossing, struggling, wrecking, and foundering on a sea of commercial speculation or political adventure: where people fight even over pictures, and if a man does buy a picture, it is with the burning desire to prove it is a Raphael to his yelping enemies, rather than to point it out with a slow white finger to his breakfasting friends."

To that a bit of another letter must be added:—

"I remember (alas!) telling Rogers if he would write for my then magazine I would 'do anything for him.' 'Will you kiss me?' 'Yes.' 'But how?' 'Cheerfully!' He may have told the story, but he certainly resented the speech and showed very often that he remembered it."

The joke seems to have been common, as another version of it is given by Mrs. Norton's sister, the late Lady Dufferin, with whom also Hayward corresponded, and to whom he had applied for materials for his article on Rogers:—

"To tell the truth, there was a certain unreality in him which repelled me. I have heard him say many graceful things, but few kind ones, and he never seemed to me thoroughly in earnest save in expressing contempt or dislike. I have always heard that he was very liberal in pecuniary matters—although the instances you give (or rather, which your friend gives) do not appear to me to merit the term generous. He gave what he valued least—money; he never gave what he valued most—admiration. It seemed a positive pain to him to hear any modern poet praised, and I remember his treating me with a rudeness almost bearish because I indiscreetly avowed how much I admired Tennyson's 'Princess.' He was certainly witty; it was wit in the strictest estimation of the term: the produce of a keen and polished intellect sharpened by long contact with the world and hardened by a just confidence in his own powers; but there was little or no *humour* in him, nothing that warmed or kindled fun or sympathy in others, much that provoked retort.He told gracefully, with his usual elaborate simplicity and studied artlessness, a little anecdote about himself. 'They were playing at forfeits. Miss S. had to pay a kiss. "Oh! it was to my uncle, so I paid gladly." "Suppose it had been to me?" "I should have paid it cheerfully!" Was not that a bitter-sweet adverb?"

Hayward made free use of his friends in collecting materials for the articles that he wrote in great profusion about the "celebrities" whom he had known in their lifetime; and the amusing gossip furnished by these friends is plentiful in the letters here published. Much of it, indeed, may be serviceable to critics hereafter as evidence of the careful way in which Hayward worked up his biographical essays. But at present the letters are especially interesting for the light they throw on the dispositions of the writers themselves; and not only Mrs. Norton and Lady Dufferin, but Mrs. Grote, Mrs. Procter, Lady Waldegrave, Lady Clanricarde, and other women, as well as at least a score of memorable men, thus illustrate themselves.

There are some letters from Sydney Smith, and two from Thackeray, the second dealing pleasantly with the black-balling of the author of 'Vanity Fair' when he was first put up at the Athenæum:—

"I was quite prepared for the issue of the kind effort made at the Athenæum in my behalf; indeed, as a satirical writer, I rather wonder that I have not made more enemies than I have. I don't mean enemies in a bad sense, but men conscientiously opposed to my style, art, opinions, impertinences, and so forth. There must be thousands of men to whom the practice of ridicule must be very offensive; doesn't one see such in society, or in one's own family? persons whose nature was not gifted with a sense of humour? Such a man would be wrong not to give me a black-ball, or whatever it is called—a negatory nod of his honest, respectable, stupid old head. And I submit to his verdict without the slightest feeling of animosity against my judge. Why, Doctor Johnson would certainly have black-balled Fielding, whom he pronounced 'A dull fellow—Sir, a dull fellow!' and why shouldn't my friend at the Athenæum? About getting in I don't care twopence; but indeed I am very much pleased to have had such sureties as Hallam and Milman, and to know that the gentlemen whom you mention were so generous in their efforts to serve me."

Five years before Thackeray's temporary rebuff Hayward had received a heavier blow of a similar sort. In 1845 Lord Lyndhurst made him a Q.C., "rather on the ground of his high qualifications and great abilities than on the usual ground, that of long practice at the bar," and it was expected that the benchers of the Inner Temple would elect him into their body; but the benchers were afraid of his tyrannizing over them at their dinners, and the judges to whom he appealed decided that "the benchers were legally right and morally wrong." Hayward took this so much to heart that he "abandoned what would probably have been a great legal practice," and henceforth devoted himself much more to literature, and more also to politics. In later days he claimed that in 1852 he did almost more than any one else to bring about the coalition which resulted in the Aberdeen administration, and it was a serious disappointment to him that he was not rewarded with a Charity Commissionership. He was disappointed again in 1854, when he counted on being made Secretary to the Poor Law Board, and again in 1859, when he sought in vain a place on the Board of Customs. After that he seems to have given up all hope of office; but he continued to proffer advice and assistance to his political friends both when they were in power and when they were out of it. His correspondence with Mr. Gladstone is interesting from the time of his visit to the Ionian Islands, and there are curious references to him in other letters. Thus, Hayward wrote to Lady Emily Peel in January, 1867:—

"Arthur Russell writes from Rome that he has seen a great deal of Gladstone, who will not open his mouth on English politics, and reads Dante every morning to his daughters. The Pope was disappointed in him, charmed with Lord Clarendon, and bored by —."

And to Lord Salisbury in January, 1874, touching the sudden dissolution of Parliament which enabled the Conservatives to displace the Liberal Government:—

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cold; was mentioned as a *thought* to daughter and private secretary; then rapidly ripened into a resolution and submitted to the Cabinet. The secret was wonderfully well kept by everybody. The Liberals are delighted, and the Disraelites puzzled and annoyed."

And to Mr. R. B. Sheridan in March, 1875:

"I was with Gladstone at Hatfield the week before last, and I dined with him last Saturday at the German Embassy. There is no getting him to talk of anything but Vatican and Popery. In the third book of the 'Dunciad' occurs this couplet, in the mouth of Settle:—

Though long my party built on me their hopes

For writing pamphlets and for roasting popes.

Did you hear of Newdegate coming up to Gladstone, fraternising, and saying 'I knew you would come over to me at last'?"

Many side lights are thrown on recent political history by Hayward's correspondence with others as well as Mr. Gladstone—among the rest Sir G. C. Lewis, Sir W. Stirling-Maxwell, Sir Henry Storks, the late Lord Lytton, Lord Dalling, and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe; and politics were not excluded from the letters he exchanged with clever women. Next to Mrs. Norton, Mrs. Grote appears to have been one of his steadiest correspondents, especially after her husband's death, and there is no lack of cynicism in her letters. Instance this, suggested by one of Hayward's *Quarterly* articles in 1876:—

"I have read 'St. Beuve' with much curiosity, for he really was unknown to me as a literary star. I never cared for his 'Lundis,' I confess, and he was, as a man, ignored by the 'petite Eglise' circles in which our social pleasures were found. Now, I comprehend why. What a brilliant career a journeyman writer *could* make of it, during the reign of Louis Philippe! As to St. Beuve's 'principles,' who wanted such things then? He wrote for whoever would hire his pen, and in the eighteenth century a whole string of Englishmen did likewise. His mosquito bites at Chateaubriand attest the consciousness of his own mean personal position in the lettered republic, as do also his snarls at another magnate thereof, Cousin. Altogether, your presentment of St. Beuve is curious, and I for one would not deal with him too hardly for going where good pay was to be had *quand même*. We have had samples of the literary journeyman ourselves, and we know the physiology of the creature. It is creditable to English society that it scarcely finds its way into a decent *salon* even in these days of ravenous craving for the small stimulants furnished by the lower members of the Press gang. You know how difficult it is to render virtue interesting (I regret to confess that the Historian himself admitted this sad truth), and how easy the converse is. Still, there is room for an individual 'pattern man' to come on the stage now and then. When I portrayed Ary Scheffer, I made *him* out such, and somehow succeeded, but I am afraid I suppressed his weaknesses!"

Writing to Lady Eastlake after Mrs. Grote's death, Hayward said of her:—

"My own personal impression of her is that she was one of the three or four best, kindest, high-minded and highly-cultivated women I ever knew. She had both head and heart, thought and feeling, and nothing was more remarkable in her than her elevated, unerring sense of truth and justice. She was an admirable judge of character, and an excellent critic. I never felt satisfied with any of my own writings till approved by her. She must not be weighed by her books, nor hardly by her letters, although these contain more of her intellectual powers. Where she excelled, where she brought out the best qualities of her mind and her wide range of knowledge, was in her conversation, which

was rich, full, and varied to an extraordinary degree. She talked with equal ease and spirit on the lightest and the gravest topics, but when the subject lent itself to the serious mode of treatment, she was fond of penetrating below the surface, of taking the philosophical view, and of deducing something like a general conclusion or moral. I do not believe I ever passed an hour with her without being instructed as well as gratified."

Up to the age of eighty-three Hayward was dining and playing whist at the Athenæum, and till within a few weeks of his death in February, 1884, there seemed no reason why he should not live for some years longer. He was more than an essayist, yet he will be chiefly remembered as a *Quarterly* reviewer for two generations.

Catalogue of the Hebrew Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library. Compiled by A. Neubauer, M.A. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.) *Facsimiles of Hebrew MSS. in the Bodleian.* (Same publishers.)

THE Bodleian Library contains, as is well known, the largest collection of Hebrew MSS. in the world. That of St. Petersburg, if not so extensive, is perhaps richer in certain classes of MSS., such as Samaritan and Judæo-Arabic works. But the Bodleian collection is remarkable for being rich in all departments of New Hebrew learning. How widespread this is the outside world little knows. Besides the ordinary rubrics of Bible, Talmud, and Kabbalah, we have here Hebrew MSS. dealing with medicine, philosophy, astronomy, mathematics, history, sacred and secular poetry, magic, polemics, not to speak of grammar and lexicography. Nearly 800 contain the various forms of Jewish liturgy, in which Dr. Neubauer has incorporated a surprising list of sacred poems in Hebrew composed during the Middle Ages. Jewish culture has been till recently a separate stream of intellectual activity, influenced by and influencing the main currents of European thought, but preserving a special character of its own. Even at the present day the Hebrew presses pour forth every year a volume of literature equalling in amount that of many a European state. This extensive literature affords a curious side light to the history of civilization. In particular the history of mediæval science and folk-lore has still much to learn from this source. Thus the Bodleian collection is not only large, but a most valuable mine of information. Whether it is best placed, remote from German universities, is strongly doubted by the Teutonic scholars who have to pay a pilgrimage to Oxford to consult its treasures; but the fault, if fault it is, is due to the supineness of the German authorities in allowing to pass over to England for absurdly inadequate sums the Oppenheimer and Michael collections, which form the main bulk of the Bodleian collection. As a consequence the post of custodian of these treasures is exceptionally onerous, inquiries from all parts of Europe coming for information as to these MSS. Dr. Neubauer has placed his knowledge generously at the aid of the Hebrew specialists of Europe, and scarcely an important work has appeared of late years that has not contained an acknowledgment of his kindness in making excerpts and supplying information. How he has

managed to do all this while engaged on the huge task of compiling an accurate account of these 2,600 MSS. passes our comprehension.

The exceptional difficulty of his task may be guessed from the above account of the varied classes of MSS. that had to be dealt with. The linguistic range which is covered by the conventional term "Hebrew" is sufficiently extensive; the Catalogue includes MSS. in Arabic, Samaritan, Chaldaic, Rabbinic, Jewish-German in Hebrew characters, Persian, and Greek, not to speak of Latin, French, Italian, German, and Spanish translations and treatises. Then the bibliographical difficulties in determining whether a MS. have already been printed are extremely great, notwithstanding all that has been done by Wolf, Steinschneider, Zedner, and Benjakob in this direction. There are probably over 20,000 Hebrew works already printed, and yet Dr. Neubauer has managed to inform us whether each of his MSS., which probably include 6,000 separate works, has been printed. It would have been well, however, if he had added the date of printing or a reference to the standard bibliographies instead of the mere word "printed," which is of small use to any but the most expert in Jewish bibliography. Perhaps the most exhaustive, and certainly the most exhausting, part of the work is the detailed description of the liturgies (cols. 213-432), containing in many cases the headings of each hymn and their identification with those contained in Zunz's masterly history of Jewish hymnology; as this contains some 2,500 (unindexed) numbers the difficulties of identification must have been enormous. We venture to think that such excessive detail would have been more appropriate in a treatise specially devoted to the subject. We should have preferred to see the space thus occupied utilized for continuous extracts from the more interesting unpublished MSS. We dare say Dr. Neubauer shares in our regret that these are so few, as he apologizes for the fact in the preface. But it would have been impossible to have extended the description beyond that of the titles and of the indications of authorship. Even as it is, the list, concise as Dr. Neubauer has contrived to make it, extends to over 1,100 quarto columns.

If Dr. Neubauer has been sparing in his descriptions, he has been magnificently full in his indexes of authors, titles, scribes, owners, witnesses, and geographical names. These contain all the names of persons in the body of the Catalogue and in the list of geographical names in Hebrew. Dr. Neubauer, who is the greatest living authority on this last subject, has in many cases included names occurring in the MSS., but not quoted in the Catalogue itself. We should have been grateful for transliteration of the names of places. This is, perhaps, reserved for the prize essay which Dr. Neubauer presented to the Paris Academy a couple of years ago. The most striking part of these indexes is that dealing with the titles. Under this modest heading there is given nothing less than an index of subject-matters to the whole collection. Thus under the rubric *שאלות* we have a list of all the writers on ethics and the numbers of the anonymous treatises as well as, somewhat

incongruously, the same information on fables. The subjects under "Various" fully answer to that title; dreams, chess, a formula for making soap, tracts in praise of the invention of writing, Italian coins, mnemonics, the evil eye, paradise, excommunication, are some of them. Generally speaking, Dr. Neubauer is evidently of the opinion of the wit who declared that it did not matter who wrote a book if only the author compiled the index.

Of the collection itself, to which Dr. Neubauer has now given the indispensable guide, it would be impossible to give an adequate account in these columns. Ranging over the *omne scribile*, it offers occasion for comment on almost every page. Strange to say, though the Bible is the centre of the whole literature, its MSS. are the least important. None of those in the Bodleian dates before the eleventh century, and the researches of Kennicott and De Rossi have shown that their variants only lead up to a single family of MSS. from the school of the Massorites. The versions afford the most promise in settling the earliest text. It is probably for this reason that the descriptions of the Biblical MSS. are of the curtest. It is rather in Chaldaic and Arabic translations and in Rabbinic commentaries that the Bodleian offers most promise to the Biblical scholar. Somewhat similar may be said of the Talmud. Owing to the wholesale burning of the copies of the Talmud, very few MSS. remain to offer a text, and the best variants are nowadays obtained from the early commentaries, in which the Bodleian is particularly rich. The Midrashic or legendary literature of the Talmudic age is well represented here, many *inedita* offering temptation to the student of Jewish imaginative fancy. Of the liturgies we have spoken; this is undoubtedly the richest collection in existence. The philosophical section is of more general interest as affording many important links in the chain of tradition which brought Greek thought back to Europe, through Latin translations of Hebrew versions of Arabic adaptations of Syriac translations of the Greek originals. The same may be said of the rich collection of mathematical and medical science. We shall probably have an opportunity of judging of Europe's debt to the mediæval Jews in this regard by the publication of Dr. Steinschneider's monograph on the Hebrew translators. These classes of MSS. have perhaps but a mediate interest. Of independent value is the section on mediæval Jewish poetry, of which the Bodleian contains a unique collection. This includes complete Divans of the great poetical triumvirate, Solomon ibn Gabirol, Moses ibn Ezra, and Jehuda Halevi. It does not speak well for the literary taste of Jewish scholars that none of these has hitherto been adequately edited. We understand that the revived society "Mekize Nirdamim" contemplates publishing at an early date the 'Tarshish' of Moses ibn Ezra, but it is little less than a scandal that there is no edition of Jehuda Halevi, perhaps the only New Hebrew poet who gives proof of true poetic genius of a high order. Dr. Neubauer has shown his sense of the importance of these MSS. by giving full lists of the poems contained in them.

Of the forty facsimiles that accompany the Catalogue in a fine portfolio we can only say that they are too good. For the immediate purpose of their reproduction is to serve as a guide to Hebrew paleography, and for this a smaller format with a larger number of reproductions—several on the same page, as in Steinschneider's 'Berlin Catalogue'—would have been preferable. Dr. Neubauer's introductory comments are rather too meagre to be adequate for this purpose. The facsimiles themselves are magnificent productions of lithographic art and reflect great credit on the Clarendon Press. They include the well-known autograph of the great Maimonides, and, for completeness, the curious script recently discovered by Dr. Harkavy. It has been suggested, we believe by Dr. Gaster, that this character is due to the Chazars; the suggestion needs historical confirmation.

In parting from the Catalogue we have to congratulate Dr. Neubauer on the conclusion of his arduous labours, which confer an inestimable boon on the many scholars, here and on the Continent, who concern themselves with Hebrew literature.

Mary Stuart: a Narrative of the first Eighteen Years of her Life, principally from Original Documents. By the Rev. Joseph Stevenson, S.J. (Edinburgh, Paterson.)

AMID all that has been written about Mary Stuart, the story of her early years has been left comparatively untouched; and no one was better fitted than Father Stevenson, by both sympathy and special knowledge of the subject, to supply such an important omission. Few men are more familiar with the sources of English and Scottish history, particularly in the sixteenth century; and even if he should be thought too partial in his judgment, it is well to know what a warm sympathizer with Mary, fully informed of the facts, has to say in her favour. Indeed, the book, however valuable as a contribution to biography, is avowedly the work of an advocate. It has been written, as we are informed by an accompanying circular, "with the object of helping to vindicate the character of Queen Mary Stuart from the many accusations which have been brought against her concerning the later years of her life." And the argument, of course, is indirect; for the fullest and fairest account of her early years can give us no perfect assurance either as to her guilt or innocence in transactions of a later period. The argument merely is that the girl is the mother of the woman; or, as Father Stevenson expresses it, "the life of the woman is but the continuation of the life of the girl; and as the girl has been educated, so the woman will conduct herself."

One great advantage, however, in treating of this period of Mary's life is that the facts are uncontested; and Father Stevenson is fully justified in demanding that what is universally admitted should also be carefully weighed. "During the whole of Mary's residence in France," he insists, "not one censorious voice was ever raised to the disparagement of her conduct as a maiden, a wife, or a widow." And he has no difficulty in refuting the theory, once prevalent among Mary's censors, that even at the very outset of her career her character

had suffered from the injurious influence of Catherine de' Medici in her education. Catherine had really no share in her daughter-in-law's education at all. Catherine's influence during her husband's life was not such as to give her any control over it, and Mary was the object of her special dislike, inasmuch that it was mainly owing to Catherine that she was at length driven from France back to her native land. Those who had the care of Mary's bringing up were her maternal relations the Guises, especially her grandmother Antoinette de Bourbon, the wife of the first Duke of Guise.

It is just as well, certainly, that this point should be made clear, and that, whatever view we take of Mary's character, we should not allow ourselves to regard her as one predisposed to evil by her education. Without prejudging any of the still unsettled questions, surely it is conceivable enough that a woman, even of good education, cast suddenly, in her nineteenth year, alone and unfriended, on the stormy sea of Scotch politics, should not have been able to steer her course aright. How far the essential weakness of her position induced her to stifle scruples at one or another crisis is, from this point of view, a matter of but secondary moment. That which is really important, to do justice alike to Mary and to history, is that we should remember the peculiar difficulties of her situation. Even the male sovereigns of Scotland, as a rule, had fared badly enough at the hands of rebellious subjects; but a female sovereign who, besides the accustomed factiousness of the Scotch nobility, had to contend with the sleepless jealousy of her powerful neighbour Elizabeth—a rival who, owing to Mary's unfortunate pretensions to the English throne, was driven, one might almost say by necessity and in mere self-defence, to foment trouble for her in her own kingdom—was certainly in the most pitiable condition that even a Scotch sovereign could well occupy.

Father Stevenson begins with a brief sketch of the policy of Henry VIII. towards Scotland, and the relations between the two countries during the period Mary was in France. Perhaps he is justified in saying that during the earlier years of his reign Henry was "comparatively indifferent to the affairs of Scotland," but it is only in the comparative sense that he can be said to have been indifferent at all. A little later, however, we meet with a positive inaccuracy, which is really astonishing in a writer so well versed as Father Stevenson in the history of his country. Taking the year 1535 as a starting-point, he actually tells us that "at that time Henry was at war with France." If so the fact has most strangely escaped the knowledge of historians, and the "original documents" from which Father Stevenson professes to have compiled his "narrative" should be published for the guidance of others. All the information that we at present possess shows rather that in that year Francis I., though very ill satisfied with Henry, was determined not to make him an enemy lest the Emperor should profit by their quarrel. Still this error, serious as it is, does not affect the general substance of the book, and we can honestly recommend its perusal to all who wish to

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form a just estimate of Mary Stuart and of the influences under which her character was formed. Father Stevenson always writes in a smooth and graceful style, which would certainly have made him better known to the general public if it were not that so much of his original writing has been in the form of prefaces to works not intended for general perusal. It is a great boon to the public when a man who has spent much time in original research condescends to impart his knowledge in a popular form.

Jack and the Bean-Stalk. English Hexameters. By Hallam Tennyson. Illustrated by Randolph Caldecott. (Macmillan & Co.)

WHEN Aristotle suggested that metrical language is merely an accidental quality of Epic, he showed how limited was his knowledge. he proved himself to be a worthy ancestor of those "afflicted creatures the critics," whom poets love to castigate. No doubt as a student of metrical effects he was familiar with such hexameters as Homer's. No doubt as a critic of epic poetry he was familiar with such epics as the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. But of English hexameters (or, as they are sometimes irreverently called, "English lumberers") he seems to have known as little as of the great epic subject which has inspired England's latest epic poet, 'Jack and the Bean-Stalk.' To English hexameters, indeed, the poet before us stands in the same relation as Columbus once stood to boiled eggs: he has discovered in them potentialities heretofore undreamed of. Ever since they were invented English poets (or at least English readers) have been puzzling over the question, "What on earth are they fit for?" To show what English hexameters cannot do has always been easy enough. Southey and Longfellow achieved it without the smallest difficulty, to say nothing of the recent poets (a legion) who have been giving us hexametrical renderings of Homer. But until the appearance of the epic before us the world had waited in vain for a metrical adventurer who could show what English hexameters can do. To have discovered the *raison d'être* of this most inscrutable of metrical movements, to have shown by actual experiment that Jack and Giant epics form the proper poetic material for dactylic hexameters in English, is a triumph. And surely it is greatly to the honour of English hexameters that they have been found adequate to the rendering of the finest of all the stories in the Jack and Giant cycle. For, as regards pure poetry of conception, 'Jack and the Bean-Stalk' must be placed far above the still more popular epic of 'Jack the Giant-Killer.'

Though lacking in great measure the Gargantuan humour of that more famous epic—where, indeed, such episodes as those of the hasty pudding and the ripping open of the giant's belly are as fine as anything in Rabelais—it surpasses 'Jack the Giant-Killer' in the high quality of natural magic. The sudden upspringing of the bean-stalk—without any hint at first of the fairy miracle that has caused it—takes the mind into that realm of poetic wonder where "Natura Benigna," the great magic queen, sits enthroned:—

Jack was a poor widow's heir, but he lived as a drone in a beehive,
Hardly a handstir a day did he work. To squander her earnings
Seem'd to the poor widow hard, who raved and scolded him always.
Nought in her house was left; not a cheese, not a loaf, not an onion;
Nought but a cow in her yard, and that must go to the market.
"Sell me the cow," cried she; then he sold it, gad! for a handful—
Only to think!—of beans. She shied them out thro' the window,
Cursing him: hied to her bed, there slept, but awoke in amazement,
Seeing a huge bean-stalk, many leaves, many pods, many flowers,
Rise to the clouds more tall than a tall Californian pine tree;
High as a lark was Jack, scarce seen, and climbing away there.
"Where an' O where," he shrill'd; she beheld his boots disappearing;
Pod by pod Jack arose, till he came to a pod that alarm'd him.
Bridge-like this long pod stretch'd out, and touch'd on an island
Veiled in vapour.

"Veiled in vapour" is good, though perhaps the magic of the phrase will only be thoroughly understood by critics like those to whom the poem is dedicated (Golden-haired Alley, Charlie, and Michael). These will find the three magical words more pictorial than the elaborate descriptions of more sophisticated poets, Homer, for instance. Whether or not children will find these lines too little "sesquipedalian" for thorough enjoyment, there can be no doubt that for mock-heroic purposes English hexameters are peculiarly well fitted, and for this reason, that in the very sound of this pompous movement there is an inevitable suggestion of solemn banter and half-serious chaff. A very winning vein of humour runs through the entire poem.

Metrically Mr. Tennyson's hexameters would be impeccable were they not too correct. Sometimes forgetting the fundamental difference between the quantitative prosodies of the old world and the accentual prosodies of the new, he will give his readers a verse which is not English in scansion. This is, of course, a mistake. Properly speaking there are in English poetry no feet answering to the feet of Greek and Latin prosody, and it is only for the sake of convenience that we give to certain accentual arrangements the names of dactyl, anapaest, iamb, &c. The adoption, however, of the nomenclature of ancient prosody does not, as Mr. Cayley erroneously supposed, import into English verse the properties of a quantitative metrical system; the metrical idea of English song is still and will always be accentual and accentual only, quantity being merely an auxiliary to accent, though a far more valuable one than many poets suppose. For instance,

There is a budding morrow in midnight,
though a very fine verse, is, as we have pointed out when speaking of iambic verse, not so fine as it would have been had accent and quantity met as in the verse,

Thy soul was like a star and dwelt apart.

For English quantity lies in the vowels alone. But although in English versification accent and quantity cannot always meet, and although decidedly good verses of nearly the first class may be written where they do

not meet, the law that accent must not yield to quantity can never be properly infringed upon as here:—

Basted a young elephant—Jack's namesake shrieked and turned it.

This is what we mean by saying that some of Mr. Tennyson's hexameters are too correct for English prosody. The poet who ventures upon such a verse departs from his own scheme of writing in dactyls of accent, and adopts on occasion for makeshift ends Mr. Cayley's scheme of writing in dactyls of quantity. Because it was right for Virgil in a hexameter of quantitative prosody to say,

Arma virumque cáno,

it does not follow that Clough in an accentual prosody was right, at the end of a pentameter, in saying,

Lost in a leafy cavern.

Otherwise Mr. Cayley's system of translating from Greek poets in purely quantitative metres is not—as Mr. Tennyson must surely think it is—an ingenious mistake.

But with regard to 'Jack and the Bean-Stalk,' one advantage it has over its brother epics is this: it is illustrated by Randolph Caldecott. Though, when compared with such a master of fairy art as Cruikshank, there is in all other workers in this line a certain sense of failure, Caldecott here, as always, is admirable, quaint, and humorous. But it is in those very illustrations in which the influence of Cruikshank is apparent—in the delightful design, for instance, where Jack astride of the bean-pod is making his way towards the misty barrier between him and fairy-land—that Caldecott's inferiority to the great master of fairy art is most seen. Cruikshank would have put into the features of the climber that marvellous, unapproachable, dramatic life which in the illustrations to the Grimm stories impresses his fairy pictures upon the brain at once and for ever.

In depicting giants the great difficulty of course is to make the giant look really gigantic. In English artists except Cruikshank it is not the vastness of the giant's apparent size that strikes the spectator, but the diminutive proportions of the ordinary mortals brought into contrast with him. Mr. Caldecott's giant is merely an oversized Lincolnshire farmer, and Jack is a dwarf. It must be borne in mind, however, that it is as "ideas"—tentative, not final—that many of these sketches must be taken. In his preface, indeed, Mr. Tennyson says:

"In his last letter to me Caldecott wrote, 'I have been making several attempts at the giant, and have been cogitating over the illustrations to "Jack" generally. During the winter I shall be able to show you some of my ideas.'"

This, of course, fully accounts for the incongruity between the attenuated Hibernian-looking giant on p. 29 and the bovine Colossus on p. 37. In all of them, however, is seen not only Caldecott's wonderful power of draughtsmanship, but his peculiar whim and playful humour. The giant pursuing Jack with a cudgel is an absolutely perfect thing. So is the giant smelling "the flesh of a man." The animals, it need scarcely be said, are all faultless. The wise fairy-frog telling Jack the story of the giant's crimes is delightful. But the crowning

triumph is the giant's pet tiger taking his ease: though it is a mere sketch of a few bold rough lines, we are inclined to place it at the very top of Caldecott's work. Not only is the animal a faultless tiger, but he is a tiger of a very pronounced individuality—a tiger with a conscious pride in the glories of so doughty an owner.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

The Outsider. By Hawley Smart. 2 vols. (White & Co.)

The Minister's Charge. By W. D. Howells. (Edinburgh, Douglas.)

Kintail Place: a Story of Revolution. By the Author of 'Dorothy.' (Sonnenschein & Co.)

In the Change of Years. By Felise Lovelace. (Vizetelly & Co.)

The New Man at Rossmere. By Mrs. J. H. Walworth. (Maxwell.)

As Common Mortals. (Same publishers.)

The Story of Don Miff, as told by his Friend John Bouche Whacker. Edited by Virginus Dabney. (J. B. Lippincott Company.)

MR. SMART's cheery stories are never unwelcome, though his material on the present occasion is of the thinnest, and written, as he would say himself, too much *currente calamo*. We have the usual dragoon of "the thorough Anglo-Saxon type, with a cascade of fair hair falling over his mouth," &c.; the heroine frisky but misunderstood, in this case a wife separated from the husband she has married in a fit of pique; the heroine's early lover, destined to be her second husband; the malicious *grande dame*, who does her best to close the doors of society against the heroine; bookmakers, punters, sportsmen, *fortis Gyas fortisque Cloanthus*. There is, of course, a big race which sets the hero straight and redeems the paternal acres, as well as gossip from the smoking-rooms of the club and the country house, Richmond water-parties, balls, and high jinks generally. The counterplot consists of the loves of the dragoon and a warm-hearted young lady, whose partisanship in favour of the maligned Mrs. Welstead breeds a threatening coldness between them. In the end, after much singeing of wings and playing with edged weapons, the injured heroine is placed, by the death of her *roué* husband, in a fair way for the accomplishment of her desires.

To 'The Minister's Charge' Mr. Howells has added the second title of 'The Apprenticeship of Lemuel Barker,' so that the reader who is in doubt as to the direction in which the interest of the book runs is not relieved of the responsibility of deciding. Is Barker to be viewed in his relation to the minister, or is the minister to be taken only as a detail in Barker's apprenticeship? If the answer is both, it hits the chief blot in the book, a certain want of decisiveness very unusual with Mr. Howells. In the result neither the minister nor Barker is satisfactory. The minister is in a difficulty which comes from his having thoughtlessly praised the verses of an ignorant country lad, and from a vague resulting obligation suggested partly by his own conscience and partly by his wife, who in the part she plays suggests a variation upon the type exemplified by Mrs. Lapham

in 'The Rise of Silas Lapham.' The minister is a successful preacher in Boston whose business is to treat moral problems attractively, and his relations with Barker suggest excellent topics for his sermons, the leading ideas of which Mr. Howells sets down in his clever, pointed way. Barker's unexpected visits serve to prick the minister's conscience, to illustrate his wife's character, and to induce him to find employment for his charge; but one cannot help thinking that the position of things would have just suited George Eliot, and does not suit Mr. Howells at all. Looking at the story from the other point of view, Barker's apprenticeship strikes one as unnecessarily commonplace, and at times one can only follow his fortunes with some effort. But they give Mr. Howells plenty of opportunities for studies of various phases of Boston life, and incidentally make his book very good reading. It must be placed far below 'The Rise of Silas Lapham,' and the promise of a continuation of Barker's story will be received with hesitating gratitude.

It is characteristic of the author that Kintail Place, from which the story takes its name, has no connexion with the story itself. It is the name of a villa casually mentioned in the narrative. In a similar spirit the writer, who has an excellent story to tell, misleads his readers by devoting several chapters at the beginning to the simple annals of a modern family of fashion, the chief incident in which is the injustice of a lady who accuses her governess of having stolen a pearl, which, it afterwards appears, has been lost through the mischief of a child. A good deal of devotion to the interests of religion also characterizes these chapters. But when he is for the moment embarrassed in the vain attempt to connect the opening with the continuation of the tale, the reader finds himself plunged at short notice into the midst of the Vendéan war. The author, who seems to have had exceptional advantages in access to details, traces the fortunes of a Breton family and their English relatives during that frightful conflict. It is a pity that an honest, and in many respects able, attempt to tell the story from the Royalist point of view should be marred by an inconsequent style.

'In the Change of Years' is chiefly remarkable for the demonstrative affection of Mr. Haughton of the —th Hussars, "a man before whom women fall like the proverbial ninepins." He is for ever embracing the fragile Dymphna Armitage, a young lady whose mouth had the appearance "of being made solely for kisses and bon-bons," regardless of the fact that he was already wedded to Circe Romani (it will be conceded that Miss Lovelace is nothing if not original in the matter of names). This indiscreet behaviour, culminating in a proposal of elopement at two o'clock in the morning, when Dymphna arrayed in a "white wrapper" was kneeling at her bedside, results disastrously for all concerned. Consumption, murder, and suicide make havoc amongst the *dramatis personæ*, and Mr. Jack Haughton wanders "away, away out into the wide wide world," to the immense relief of any one condemned to wade through 320 pages, in which the sensuous side of love is dwelt upon with unwholesome persistence.

There are so many new men at Rossmere, or at any rate in Mrs. Walworth's story, that the reader soon loses count of them, and finds a difficulty in keeping all the characters distinct and in their places. Many of the incidents are connected with "levee duty" on the Mississippi; and very remarkable some of these incidents are—as when the hero, discovering a leak in the dyke, "thrust his bared right arm into the soft ooze where the trickling stream ran through." His arm apparently kept the water back for a long time; then, as that began to fail, he tried the effect of a sack of earth; and, the sack being useless, he plunged his whole body into the widening orifice. This fight with a bursting flood is sensational in its way, and the description must be read in order to be appreciated. It is not the only sensation in Mrs. Walworth's lively narrative.

The author of 'As Common Mortals' is very fond of talking, in a rather sententious way, about "the American intention." The intention of the great republic is to conduct its affairs on business principles, so that the women cannot conscientiously read a novel in the morning, and the men consider a social call to be a deplorable waste of time. The city of Goverick is described in detail as an embodiment of this idea, and the description contains much that is fresh and unconventional. English readers are growing sufficiently familiar with American fiction to recognize its leading types at a glance, and in some respects the supply may be thought to be a little in excess of the demand; but it was worth while to reprint 'As Common Mortals,' which gives distinct evidence of cleverness and refinement of feeling. The heroine, one Milly Barron, after a gently nurtured youth which is depicted with great tenderness, passes through certain spiritualistic experiences of a not particularly pleasing character, and then the reader is rewarded by a pretty love story, which restores the attractiveness almost completely lost in the middle of the book. Milly's childhood and Milly's wooing make the narrative of her fortunes and misfortunes thoroughly readable. There is too much subtlety in the reflections and in the conversations—that is part of America's literary intention; but, taking the volume as a whole, it is certainly one to be commended.

One has to read a good deal of what Mr. Dabney calls "a symphony of life" before getting at anything like the plot of a story. By way of compensation some pages are given to Beethoven's 'Eroica' Symphony, which we are to take as interpreting the spirit of the general movement, and an introductory chapter which is to be regarded as an overture, crossed by certain "leit-motifs," and much intermittent playfulness of a somewhat Pantagruelistic kind. The reader who does not happen to be in sympathy with the author from the outset will scarcely be able to follow him intelligently through all the windings of a too exuberant fancy; but in spite of this difficulty Mr. Dabney is unquestionably worth following. The trivialities of his humour are made up for by the carefulness and charm of his descriptions, and by many passages of pure and deep feeling. The pictures of life in Virginia before and during the civil war appear to be conscientiously drawn by an actor in, as well as an

eye-witness-of, the scenes described. When the plot thickens and becomes genuinely engrossing, Mr. Dabney's style gains in dignity and earnestness, and the last few chapters are exceedingly pathetic.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

- Silverthorns*. By Mrs. Molesworth. (Hatchards.)
Sue; or, Wounded in Sport. By E. Vincent Briton. (Seeley & Co.)
Not Thrown Away, but Given. By Mrs. G. S. Reaney. (Nelson & Sons.)
An Old Marquise. By Vin Vincent. (Dublin, Duffy & Sons.)
The Venturesome Twins. By Mary E. Gellie. (Griffith, Farran & Co.)
Elsie's Holidays. By Martha Farquharson. (Same publishers.)
Elsie's Girlhood. (Same author and publishers.)
Three Nights. By Cecil Marryat Norris. (Same publishers.)
Real Grit. By Silas K. Hocking. (Warne & Co.)
The Prairie Chief. By R. M. Ballantyne. (Nisbet & Co.)
Little Lord Fauntleroy. By Mrs. F. H. Burnett. (Warne & Co.)
The Queen's Land. By Commander Lovett Cameron, R.N., C.B. (Sonnenschein & Co.)
Footprints in the Forest. By Edward S. Ellis. (Cassell & Co.)
Ethel Fortescue. By Cecilia Selby Lowndes. (Warne & Co.)
Nancy's Nephew; or, Mike's First Campaign. By Beatrice Marshall. (Same publishers.)
Linford Green. By Cecilia Selby Lowndes. (Same publishers.)
In Letters of Flame: a Tale of the Waldenses. By C. L. Matéaux. (Cassell & Co.)
A Tale of Oughts and Crosses; or, Mr. Holland's Conquest. By Darley Dale. (Nisbet & Co.)
Madge Hardwicke; or, the Mists of the Valley. By Agnes Giberne. (Shaw & Co.)
Father Aldur: a Water Story. Same author. (Seeley & Co.)
Prince Peerless: a Fairy Folk Story Book. By the Hon. Margaret Collier (Madame Galletti de Cadilhac). Illustrated by the Hon. John Collier. (Fisher Unwin.)
The Driver's Box, and other Stories. (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.)
The Golden Land; or, Links from Shore to Shore. By B. L. Farjeon. With Twenty-eight Illustrations by Gordon Browne. (Ward, Lock & Co.)
The House of the Little Wizard. By Joyce Darrell. (Hatchards.)
Four Winds Farm. By Mrs. Molesworth. Illustrated by Walter Crane. (Macmillan & Co.)
Very Short Stories and Verses for Children. By Mrs. W. K. Clifford. (Scott.)
Children's Stories of American Progress. By H. C. Wright. (Bickers & Son.)

MRS. MOLESWORTH'S 'Silverthorns' is a most attractive story. It is more elaborate than most of the author's works, and addressed to an older class of readers. Silverthorns is an eerie old mansion, inhabited by a rather formidable old lady, her charming niece (the good fairy of the book), and a ghost. Hard by live the family who ought to possess the land. In the end Silverthorns returns to its rightful owners—thanks to the good fairy and the ghost. The story is told in Mrs. Molesworth's best manner.

The author of 'Amyot Brough' gives in 'Sue; or, Wounded in Sport,' a tale of the West Country and its folk. The village life is admirably drawn, and the slow, deliberate country ways; but surely the London household is a caricature.

'Not Thrown Away, but Given,' is a teetotal tale. The hero devotes his life to work in the London slums. The book is well meant, but totally lacking in any literary merit, as the following quotation will show: "If only we could coax the creepers to grow and hide its ugliness!"

little Marion Loon, the bank manager's only daughter (who came midway in a family of six sons), had said once to her cousin, Lottie Bruce, an orphan, who under the ship captain's care had found her way from the far country of the West Indies to the home which welcomed her from that hour as Marion's foster-sister—"If only we could coax the creepers to grow and hide its ugliness!"

'An Old Marquise,' which hails from Dublin, will probably find more favour in that city than here. The idea is that of Cherbuliez's 'Noirs et Rouges,' namely, that of the struggle between the Church and the world, though the idea is certainly the only thing that the two books have in common. The author's sympathies are with the Church.

'The Venturesome Twins' should be kept out of the way of all venturesome children. They run away, hide in a canal-boat, are lost in London, and do many other wild things. They scarcely deserve to be restored to their sorrowing parents at last.

'Elsie's Holidays' forms a sequel to 'Elsie Dinsmore,' an American tale published some years ago. 'Elsie's Girlhood' is a further continuation. We have no great love for the heroine, who is a morbid, introspective, and self-conscious child, but we cannot help pitying her sorrows. Her tears and sobs pervade the books. Altogether it is a melancholy chronicle.

'Three Nights' is also a somewhat saddening tale, though it wears its rue with a difference. Gervase Digby is a spoilt and coddled little lad who is awakened to a sense of life's duties by a terrible encounter with burglars.

The plot of 'Real Grit' bears a considerable resemblance to that of 'Three Nights,' only the hero is a man instead of a boy, and his probation last three years instead of three nights. Unlucky speculations deprive Jack Forby at one blow of his father and his fortune, and he reaches the depths of poverty and misery before his "real grit" asserts itself and raises him to wealth and honour once more.

'The Prairie Chief' is the story of a "good" Indian, as children say. Whitewing, endowed with all the prowess of his race, has listened to the missionaries, and though he and his braves have lost nothing of their adventurous spirit, they take no scalps, and exert their powers on the side of decency and order. Little Tim and Big Tim represent the half-Indian trapper of old times with much success, and the half-caste heroines are all that can be desired. The catching of a grizzly bear alive by the single strategy of Little Tim is one of the best incidents in the story.

'Little Lord Fauntleroy' should be popular. A younger son of a wicked and very rich earl had married, against his father's wish, a pretty American wife, and died leaving her very poor in New York. There she lived with her little boy till events made him heir to the earldom. Then the wicked earl sends for him and gives the mother a house, but refuses to see her. So nice a boy is little Lord Fauntleroy—so manly and so good—that he converts his grandfather into almost a nice old gentleman, and ultimately, after an exciting episode, which shall not be revealed, makes everything and everybody happy. All this is admirably told in Mrs. Burnett's simple and pathetic style. The story leaves the little lord at the age of eight, and one can hardly help wishing to know what happened afterwards. Perhaps Mrs. Ewing would have killed him and drawn many tears, and perhaps that would have made a more effective conclusion; but Mrs. Burnett's ending, though rather strained, is certainly happier, and she just contrives to make the little boy seem possible. The book is prettily illustrated.

The Queen's Land, south of the Galla country, is the scene selected by Com. Cameron for his story of adventure. It is supposed to be a region dominated by a descendant of the Queen of Sheba. Dahomey has furnished a modern

instance of the "monstrous regiment of women." Com. Cameron's natural and cultivated gift of incident is in this case enhanced by a digression into the world of the supernatural, and between incantations and lion-fights the schoolboy has as strong an alternative to prosaic instruction as can be desired by the wildest devourer of the 'Arabian Nights.'

'Footprints in the Forest' is a sequel to 'Camp Fire and Wigwam,' written and spelt in choice American. Why it is proper to say "a long ways" for "a long way" is not apparent. Boys will not, however, think about the style so long as the virtuous Deerfoot and his friends are skilful and victorious.

We all know the large family of children whose parents leave them for six months. The parents of Ethel Fortescue are obliged to go to New Zealand; they leave their ten children in charge of the elders, Ethel and Jocelyn. The usual things happen: one is lost in a wood, another led away by the pomps and vanities of the world, several are burnt. However, by the end of the six months all are found, reclaimed, and convalescent. The book is neither better nor worse than dozens of others of the same type.

Nancy's nephew, though he unluckily belongs to the army of the "misunderstood," is a fine little fellow. But there is far too much sentimental writing in the record of his history, as, for instance: "He looked up and saw Mr. Fitzgerald reclining on one of the green plush chairs. He had drawn his wife to him, and she sat gracefully on the arm of the chair, one of her white jewelled hands caressing his. 'How lovely you are, my darling,' he murmured, gazing at her fondly. 'Your hair is like ripe corn in the sunshine.' 'That's just how he used to talk to her,' thought the desolate boy in his corner. 'How can he forget her so soon? Oh! if he was talking to her now, I should be sitting at their feet.' The heart-ache this reflection brought on was almost insufferable." It is needless to remark that the lady with the hair like ripe corn is the boy's stepmother.

Linford Green is a village, in the village is a house, and in the house are two families of lodgers. They are a good deal mixed up together, finally the dining-room marries the drawing-room's eldest daughter. The British landlady plays a great part in this commonplace chronicle.

A tale of the Waldenses must of necessity be sad, yet 'In Letters of Flame' has much that is attractive. The relations between the charming little Rosalia, that devout daughter of the Church, and her husband, the accursed *réformé*, are of intense interest. Basile's stern and terrible mode of cutting through the web of difficulty and danger in which they were involved seemed to mar their happiness for ever, but in a wonderful way it brought about a blessing.

Darley Dale's 'A Tale of Oughts and Crosses' is a thoroughly readable book. Wayward, charming Marie is a fascinating character, and the gradual development of her nobler qualities is finely delineated.

Miss Giberne in 'Madge Hardwicke' draws a painful picture of a young girl's faith sapped and hope destroyed by a worldly and scientific uncle. Madge Hardwicke is not the heroine, but a peasant woman who dispels "the mists of the valley."

Miss Giberne has well christened 'Father Aldur' "a water story." The hero is a river who was beloved by a boy: "To Eric.....the river was not merely a playmate, but a dear friend. He was a fragile dreamy boy, full of imaginative and fanciful ideas. The river, beside which he spent so many hours, was to him not merely a stream of water, but a thing to be loved, a real living, moving companion, with a personality of its own, with an actual character, with powers of feeling and sympathy." Eric and his brothers play by the river, row upon it, trace

it to its source, and follow it down to the sea. The elders in the book, taking advantage of the children's infatuation for the river, deliver many lectures on the phenomena connected with water, so that the book may be looked upon as a series of lessons in physiography, clearly and well delivered, combined with a readable story.

Brand-new fairy tales must reach an exceedingly high standard if they are to hold their own. We fear that Prince Peerless and his companions will not enjoy a very long reign. It is not an easy thing to say wherein lies the charm of a true fairy tale. In the volume Mr. Unwin has published we find fairy frolic, but a little heavy of foot, and shadowy symbolism, but somewhat sad and dreary. Madame Galletti de Cadilhac is more successful with Italian realities than with fairy dreams. The Hon. John Collier's name is a guarantee for the illustrations, but they seem to us to lack the fairy touch.

"It is a prosy, monotonous thing, sir, being an omnibus driver." So opens 'The Driver's Box,' a touching little sketch of the London streets, the first and the best of a dozen short stories. The other eleven have neither much merit nor refinement.

Mr. Farjeon, that impassioned pleader for the cause of the London poor, opens out a way of hope to his humble despairing friends in 'The Golden Land.' Hard times and the overcrowding of the old country drive the Spencer family to emigrate to Australia, to the Golden Bush, where are rivers and watercourses, "lakes and streams abounding in fish; ranges as high as you would care to scale; undulating plains and tableland which will delight you if you care to come." Uncle David, with his dreams and his romance, is a pathetic old figure. Mr. Farjeon takes, perhaps, too little account of the fact that distress exists in Australia as well as in England.

'The House of the Little Wizard' is a pretty story of life in the heart of Carinthia.

Little Gratian Conyer, the godchild of the winds, is one of the most attractive of Mrs. Molsworth's creations. Born where the four winds of heaven meet, he is cherished and guided by their spirits. The dreamy little lad turns his face in the right way; we learn how, in the first great crisis of his life, he judges rightly in spite of a tremendous temptation, and there we leave him, for "this is only the story of the very opening of the life of a boy who lived to make his mark among men. How he did so, how he found his voice, it is not for me to tell. But he had early learnt to choose the right, and so we know he prospered. Besides, was he not the godchild of the four winds of heaven?" Mr. Walter Crane's illustrations are charming.

Mrs. Clifford's stories, as she says in the preface, are reprinted with one exception from two books we have noticed in former years, and therefore do not call for fresh criticism. Suffice it to say that they show a weird and original imagination. The verses have a liveliness about them that is sure to please children.

Miss Wright's volume is obviously of Transatlantic origin, and Messrs. Bickers have not even altered her spelling, which will occasionally puzzle children over here. The book is of little merit, but English boys who are accustomed to stories of British valour will be benefited by reading the account here of 'The War of 1812,' which makes out that American sailors are quite invincible.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

In *Myth-Land* (Sampson Low & Co.) Mr. F. E. Hulme has produced an elegant little book, which displays much reading of various kinds of literature, but is only to a slight extent critical in its nature. He deals almost entirely with what he calls "wholly untrue and impossible creatures of the fancy," such as the dragon, the sphinx, the harpies, the sea-serpent, and Davy Jones and his locker. At the present season, when odd tales of all kinds become the

general amusement of the home circle, the history of, and the literary references to, such as are perennial, if not immortal, will possibly interest the intelligent reader more than 'The Dead Hand of Monte Carlo' or the 'Mystery of Sir Joshua.'

We have before us an excellent little volume on *The Claims of Labour*, published by the Edinburgh Co-operative Printing Company, which contains six lectures delivered in Scotland this year by men well competent to speak upon the subject. Mr. John Burnett's address upon trades unions is as perfect a paper as those who know the secretary of the Amalgamated Engineers would expect. Mr. Benjamin Jones writes well upon co-operation, and there are good chapters by Prof. Foxwell and Mr. Patrick Geddes. Dr. A. R. Wallace attacks war, but admits of it for the defence of the weaker nations against the strong, which is a pretty large exception, as it would cause him to support our intervention in the next Franco-German war on behalf of Belgium, and in the next Russo-Austrian war on behalf of Bulgaria. Mr. William Morris writes prettily, but with mistiness, in defence of Socialism, or rather Communism itself. The volume is an outcome of the Industrial Remuneration Conference.

Our old and valued friend *Whitaker's Almanack* has this year, as was promised, been entirely remodelled and is greatly enlarged, making now quite a thick volume. Its staple contents have been revised and decidedly improved; but instead of giving a list of examiners at Oxford and Cambridge, which is quite useless, Mr. Whitaker should have inserted the names of the college tutors. Amongst the special articles are an analysis of Mr. Gladstone's abortive Irish Government and Land Bills, the merchant marine, the British navy as compared with the naval forces of Europe, a municipal directory of England and Wales, a list of London bankers of the past, and the annals of the Queen's reign.

MESSRS. KELLY & CO. have sent us *The London Post Office Directory*, the largest work of reference that we receive in the course of the year, and certainly one of the most satisfactory. We have tested it by reference at haphazard to various entries and found it perfectly correct, even the newest Q.C.s being duly noted. The only improvement we can suggest is that in view of the increasing number of "Mansions," often named according to the caprice of the builder, an index list of them might be an advantage.

AMONG other works of reference on our table is *The Insurance Year Book* (Simpkin & Marshall), which appears for the second time, and so does *Bosworth's Clerical Guide* (Hamilton, Adams & Co.). This book gives the distance of each benefice from the nearest railway station, but whether the distance is measured from the church, parsonage, or boundary of the parish Mr. Bosworth does not say.—Mr. Palgrave continues to edit the highly useful and successful *Banking Almanac* (Waterlow & Sons), which is as usual crammed with facts.—We have also received the *Calendar of the University College of Wales*, the report of which shows that the College at Aberystwith is flourishing, and that curiously enough students from England are carrying off its scholarships; and the *Calendar of the University College of South Wales*, which also seems to be prosperous.

The most interesting point about the *Almanach de Gotha* for 1887, which we have received from Justus Perthes, of Gotha, is the preface. In it there is a statement that for the future Madagascar is to be absorbed in France and Bosnia in Austria (as to the first part of which we presume that General Digby Willoughby has not been consulted), and that the families of Battenberg and Teck have been replaced in part i., from which they had last year been excluded. Excellent portraits of Princess Beatrice and her husband are

given in the places of honour, and every possible step is taken to give satisfaction to the English Court, which had evidently been offended by the volume of 1886. The execution of the almanac is as good as usual, and that is very good.

Letts's Diaries maintain in the hands of Messrs. Cassell their old reputation as thoroughly practical and sensible publications compiled with care, and printed in better type on better paper than most of their rivals. The 'Office Diary' and the 'Rough Diary' are in their various sizes quite models of their kind.

THE Christmas cards of Messrs. Marcus Ward & Co. attain a high level of excellence. In many of them the arrangement of colours is extremely good, and the figure subjects are decidedly an improvement on what they used to be. No series of cards have reached us that, as a whole, deserve greater praise.

WE have on our table *Summary of Military Law and Procedure*, by Lieut.-Col. Philip Story (Rivingtons).—*The Defence of Kahun*, by C. R. Williams (Allen & Co.).—*English Grammar and Analysis*, by F. Ritchie (Rivingtons).—*A Romanized Japanese Reader*, by B. H. Chamberlain (Trübner).—*Huddersfield Technical School and Mechanics' Institute Calendar for 1886-7* (Huddersfield, Broadbent).—*Batty's Descriptive Catalogue of the Copper Coinage of Great Britain*, Vol. III. Parts XXX. to XXXII. (Manchester, Batty).—*Our National Institutions*, by A. Buckland (Macmillan).—*The National Arms of the United Kingdom*, by the Rev. J. King (Hatchards).—*For Happiness*, by A. Calder (Trübner).—*Shadows* (Bell).—*Atonement and Law*, by J. M. Armour (Nisbet).—*Disease and Sin*, by a Medical Muser (Wyman).—*The Journal of William Darling, Grace Darling's Father* (Hamilton & Co.).—*Sir Roger de Coverley*, edited, with Notes, by D. Salmon (Longmans).—*True Stories from English History*, by O. Browning (Griffith & Farran).—*Mignon's Secret*, by J. S. Winter (Warne).—*The Nine of Hearts*, by E. L. Farjeon (Ward & Lock).—*John Parmelee's Curse*, by J. Hawthorne (Cassell).—*The Boy's Own Paper*, Volume 1886 (R.T.S.).—*The Girl's Own Paper*, Volume 1886 (R.T.S.).—*Harper's Young People*, Volume 1886 (Low).—*Dorothy's Dilemma*, by C. Austin (Blackie).—*Tales of Captivity and Exile* (Blackie).—*Uncle John's Talks with his Nephews*, by E. J. Hardy (Nisbet).—*Christel*, by P. M. Pearson and G. Wegner (S.P.C.K.).—*Wrought by Prayer*, by C. E. Smith (S.P.C.K.).—*Modern Readings and Recitations*, edited by L. Wagner (Warne).—*In the Watches of the Night*, Poems, Vol. XIII., by Mrs. H. Dobell (Remington).—*Trinitas Trinitatum* (Stock).—*Preludes to the Reformation*, by the Rev. A. R. Pennington (R.T.S.).—*The First Book of Kings*, edited by the Rev. J. R. Lumby (Cambridge University Press).—*St. Paul the Author of the Last Twelve Verses of the Second Gospel*, by H. H. Evans (Nisbet).—*A Handbook of Biblical Difficulties*, edited by the Rev. R. Tuck (Stock).—*The Liturgy of John Knox* (Glasgow, Morison).—*Laceram Conditionem Novi Testamenti*, by A. Pierson and S. A. Naber (Nutt).—*Victor Hugo, l'Homme et le Poète*, by E. Dupuy (Paris, Lecène & Oudin).—*Le Verre d'Eau*, by E. Scribe, edited by A. Barrère (Whittaker).—*Les Dernières Années du Duc d'Enghien*, by Le Comte Boulay de la Meurthe (Hachette).—*La Dubrouja*, by J. J. Nacian (Paris, Guillaumin). Among New Editions we have *Hard Knots in Shakespeare*, by Sir Philip Perring, Bart. (Longmans).—*Marcia, a Tragedy*, by P. Beatty (The Modern Press).—*and Notes on the Miracles of our Lord*, by R. C. Trench (Kegan Paul).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Ingles (Rev. J.) In the New Hebrides, a Reminiscence of Missionary Life and Work, cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Taylor (Rev. W. M.) Joseph the Prime Minister, 3/6 cl.
Whitfield (Rev. F.) Blessings of the Tribes, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Witherby (H. F.) Book of Joshua, shadowing forth the Fullness of Christian Blessing in Christ, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.

Fine Art.
Browning's (E. B.) Sonnets from the Portuguese, illustrated by L. S. Ipsen, ob. folio, 63/ cl.

Poetry.
Rossetti (D. G.), Collected Works of, with Preface and Notes by W. M. Rossetti, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 18/ cl.

History and Biography.
Duncker's (Prof. Max) History of Greece, translated by R. F. A. and E. Abbott, Vol. 2, 8vo. 18/ cl.
Hayward (A.), Selections from Correspondence of, 1834-1884, edited by H. E. Carlisle, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 24/ cl.
Smith's (H. A.) One Hundred Famous Americans, 6/ cl.

Geography and Travel.
Benson's (D. M.) The Royal Karens of Burma, cr. 8vo. 4/ 6
Wood's (C. W.) Under Northern Skies, 8vo. 14/ cl.

Science.
Capell's (Rev. A. D.) Tips in Algebra, cr. 8vo. 4/ 6 cl.
Day (W. H.) On Irritable Brain and Congestion of the Brain in Children, cr. 8vo. 1/ 6 cl.
Kelly's (J.) Expansion of Structures by Heat, cr. 8vo. 3/ 6 cl.
London University Examinations, Intermediate Mathematics, 12mo. 2/ awd.
Rabagliati's (A.) Some Remarks on the Classification and Nomenclature of Diseases, cr. 8vo. 2/ 6 cl.
Strasburg's (E.) Handbook of Practical Botany, edited from the German by W. Hillhouse, 8vo. 9/ cl.
Stretton's (C. E.) Safe Railway Working, cr. 8vo. 4/ 6 cl.
Wansborough's (W. D.) The Portable Engine, its Construction and Management, cr. 8vo. 3/ 6 cl.

General Literature.
Breakfasts, Luncheons, and Ball Suppers, by Major L****, 4/ Bullock's (Rev. C.) Something New, Anecdotes for the Young Folks all the Year Round, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.
Burs (E.) Wisdom of, Extracts from his Speeches and Writings by E. A. Pankhurst, 12mo. 6/ cl.
Daudet's (A.) Tartarin on the Alps, illustrated, translated by H. Frith, cr. 8vo. 3/ 6 awd.
Davidson's (H. C.) Green Hills by the Sea, 3 vols. 31/ 6 cl.
Deas's (F. T. R.) The Young Tva-Planter's Companion, a Practical Treatise, cr. 8vo. 4/ 6 cl.
Del Mar's (A.) Money and Civilization, 8vo. 14/ cl.
Grierson's (J.) Railway Rates, English and Foreign, 8vo. 5/ 6
Norris's (W. E.) Thrifty Hall, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
Oxford House Papers, 1st Series, 12mo. 2/ 6 cl.
Riall's (J. H.) Brief Statement of the so-called "Riall's Plans" of Treatment, 8vo. 2/ 6 cl.
Spence's (E. F.) Frank of Fate, a Novel, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
Streeter's (E. W.) Pearls and Pearl-fishing, 8vo. 12/ 6 cl.

FOREIGN.

Theology.
Hirschfeld (H.): Beiträge zur Erklärung d. Korin. 2m.
Pressensé (E. de): L'Ancien Monde et le Christianisme, 11r. 50.
Wünsche (A.): Der Babylonische Talmud übersetzt, Vol. 2, Part 1, 7m.

Fine Art and Archaeology.
Geymüller (H. de): Les du Cerceau, 60fr.
Handbuch der Baukunde, Pt. 3, 7m.
Schmarow (A.): Donatello, 4m.
Sevay (L.): L'Art Espagnol, 25fr.
Zoeller (M.): Griechische u. Römische Privatalterthümer, 6m.

History and Biography.
Buchwald (G. v.): Deutsches Gesellschaftsleben im endenden Mittelalter, Vol. 2, 4m. 50.
Friedländer (M. H.): Geschichtsbilder aus der Nachmittelalterlichen Zeit, Part 4, 3m. 50.
Gharib (B.): Adrian v. Corneto, 2m. 40.
Hahn (A. v.): Aus Bulgarischer Stammzeit, 5m. 60.
Hales (F.): Annales de l'Ordre Teutonique, 12m.

Philosophy.
Hahn (O.): Die Philosophie d. Bewusstseins, 4m.

Philology.
Abhandlungen f. die Kunde d. Morgenlandes, edited by E. Windisch, Vol. 9, 4m. 50.
Acta Seminarii Erlangensis, edd. I. Müller u. A. Luchs, Vol. 4, 9m.

Bajot (E.): Louc Van Te-Ian, Poème Annamit, traduit en Français, 7fr. 50.
Conradi (B.): Die Syntax in Cynewull's Gedicht Juliana, 2m.

Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum, Vol. 6, Pt. 3, 68m.
Draheim (J.): Lyra Doctorum, 2m.
Faschel (S.): Die Aramäischen Fremdwörter im Arabischen, 9m.

Seock (O.): Die Quellen der Odyssee, 9m.

Science.
Berthold (G.): Studien üb. Protoplasma-mechanik, 14m.
Bornemann (J. G.): Die Versteinerungen d. Cambrischen Schichten-systems Sardinien, Part 1, 20m.
Goette (A.): Zur Entwicklungsgeschichte der Thiere, Pt. 4, 24m.

General Literature.
Schmidt (E.): Charakteristiken, 8m.
Spielhagen (F.): Was Will das Werden? 3 vols. 15m.

TO THE HON. HALLAM TENNYSON.

(Author of 'Jack and the Bean-Stalk'.)

Κανλὸν ἀνυψώσας κνάμον, φιλόμουνε λυριστά,
αἶτα πάλιν στρώσας ὀξύτῳ πελέκει,
χαῖρε μάλ'. ἢ μέγα ἔργον ἀριζήλως ἐτέλεσας
οὔτε κατὰ πυστον βάρβαρον ἐξάμετρον,
καρήϊζας βαρὺν ὄγκον ἀταρτηροῖο γίγαντος,
ὄλβῳ δ' ἐξήσας παῖδα γίγαντοφόνον,
σοὶ μὲν αἰεὶ σπορνύτο πέλωρ Ἀἰδαο πανωλῆς,
σοὺς δ' ἐπιγρηθείη τυτθὸς Ἰακχος αἰεί. L.

OXFORD MATRICULATIONS.

Oxford, Dec. 6, 1886.

A PROSPECTUS has recently been sent me of "Oxford Matriculations, the complete series from 1585 to 1886, edited from Col. Chester's MS., and continued from 1869 by Joseph Foster"; intended to be entirely issued [by the end of 1887, and "projected especially for American genealogists." In this paper the 'Register of the University,' in course of publication by the Oxford Historical Society (reviewed in the *Athenæum* of August 29th, 1885), is by inadvertence entirely ignored, except that a few general words are quoted from the preface with no indication of their source. It is only fair to the members of that society, to the literary public, and to American genealogists, to state exactly the scope of each publication. I may say that I had an opportunity of making myself acquainted with Col. Chester's MS. in the lifetime of the author.

The proposed publication will give the matriculation entries from 1585 to the present time, "with particulars of degrees taken" and "brief notes of identification," in alphabetical order. But it will be observed in the specimen page which accompanies the paper that only one degree has been added prior to 1559, the point at which the printed 'Catalogue of all Graduates in.....the University of Oxford, 1659-1850' (Oxf., 1851, 8vo.), begins. The important additions to our present printed information will, therefore, be the matriculations from 1585 to 1658, the matriculations of those who took no degree between 1659 and 1850, and all details after that date (at present scattered up and down the Calendars and Gazette), together with the age, parentage, and other facts contained in the matriculation register, or added by the editor.

The Oxford Historical Society (whose volumes can be purchased separately by other than members of the Society, at an enhanced price) published in 1885 vol. i. of the 'Register of the University of Oxford,' containing all the existing official records of degrees (no matriculation lists surviving) between 1449 and 1571. Two new volumes will be issued in 1887 and 1888, bringing the tale down to 1622, the printing of which has already begun. Two more will be occupied with the years 1623-1659, and further instalments will follow. The arrangement is chronological, with an alphabetical index. The records in this series are not merely printed, but edited; that is to say, the acts of Convocation and Congregation, the lists of subscription to the Articles, the records of the several colleges, and all other available information will be, as far as possible, laid under contribution to supplement the bare registers of matriculations and degrees.

It seems, then, to be a pity that there should be in progress at the same time two laborious and expensive undertakings covering the same periods, and that when a more comprehensive scheme has actually begun a less complete one should be contemplated. And an important point is opened by consideration of the state of the early registers. A gentleman intimately acquainted with the earlier period wrote a few weeks ago that the matriculation list is so very imperfect, owing to the negligence of the registrars of that time, that to a ludicrously large number of degrees between 1590 and 1620 there is no corresponding name to be found in the matriculation register, in fact at one point in the latter list there is a gap of two years! It is clear, then, that for this period the matriculations must be carefully supplemented if they are to be taken as a basis of publication. There is no conflict, as there is no connexion, between the two schemes. Mr. Foster's will be sooner completed, will be valuable for the later period, and has the advantage of falling into one alphabetical series; and had an allusion been made in the prospectus to other publications on the same subject, public criticism would have been rendered unnecessary. As it is, it appears to be only reasonable that

your readers, here and in America, should have an opportunity of comparing the two works in their scope and method. F. MADAN.

THE ITALIAN ASIATIC SOCIETY.

ITALY has at last got her Asiatic Society, thanks chiefly to the indefatigable Count Angelo de Gubernatis. Hitherto there were but five Asiatic societies—the Société Asiatique in Paris; the Asiatic Society of Bengal, with branches at Bombay and Madras; the Royal Asiatic Society in London; and the Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft; and the American Oriental Society. Now Italy, which has lately produced a number of excellent Oriental scholars, follows, and we shall soon hope to see the volumes of the *Journal* of the Società Italiana Asiatica taking their place by the side of the long rows of children of her elder sisters. In starting the Italian Asiatic Society has chosen the eminent Arabic scholar Amari as its honorary president, and it has secured the names of the best Italian Orientalists among its honorary members. It has also conferred honorary membership on twenty-four foreign Oriental scholars, twelve belonging to Europe and America, twelve to the East. Among the latter we find the high priest of the Parsis at Bombay, Dastur Giamaspi Minochehri; the high priest of the Buddhists in Ceylon, Sumangala; the Mechitarist Leonce Alahian, Venice; and several native Sanskrit scholars, such as Bhandardar of Puna, Bhagvanlal Indragi of Bombay, and Rajendralal Mitra, President of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, at Calcutta. The European honorary members are nearly the same as those whose names appear on the rolls of honour of the other Asiatic societies. The Société Asiatique is the only one that seems to have no honorary members. Looking at the latest lists of honorary members of the other Oriental societies, we find three names on all, Boettlingk, Max Müller, and Roth (America, Bengal, Deutsche M.G., London); four names on three, Fleischer (A., D., L.), Renan (A., B., L.), Weber (A., B., L.), Whitney (B., D., L.); one name on two, Sir H. Rawlinson (B., D.). The Italian Society has added to these four new names, Maspero, Legge, Brugsch, and Friedrich Müller of Vienna, every one of them already well known to fame in the West and in the East.

THE ARTICLE "SHORTHAND" IN THE 'ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA.'

Trinity College Library, Cambridge, Dec. 6, 1886.

In the *Athenæum* of last Saturday appeared a rather strongly worded letter by Mr. Pocknell on Mr. Keith-Falconer's article on 'Shorthand' in the new volume of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica.' As my friend Mr. Keith-Falconer is now in Arabia, I venture to give, from personal knowledge, a correction of two statements in that letter.

1. "There is no evidence that Mr. Keith-Falconer has troubled himself to examine the original systems, all of which might have been found in the Bodleian," &c.

Whenever in the article a book is referred to as in the Bodleian (to say nothing of many books not so noticed), that statement is the result of Mr. Keith-Falconer's personal inspection.

2. So far from Mr. Keith-Falconer having been "inspired chiefly by Mr. Pitman's *Phonetic Journal* and by Mr. Pitman's 'History of Shorthand'" (1847), he specially made it his aim to look at everything written on the subject which seemed to be of value. He considered the two books named first in the bibliography of his article, those of Zeibig and Rockwell, to be especially useful.

As regards the work of Willis, 'Art of Stenographie' (London, 1802), Mr. Pocknell dwells on the ignorance shown as to the British Museum copy; not, perhaps, very wonderful when in the British Museum 'Catalogue of English Books

printed before 1640' it is entered, not under "Willis" or "Stenographie," but under "Art."

It is true that when the article was written Mr. Keith-Falconer knew only of the Bodleian copy, which he went over to Oxford specially to examine. He could hardly, therefore, have been "totally unacquainted with the comprehensive vowel-scale of John Willis." Afterwards he became aware of the existence of the British Museum copy, and drew attention to it (*Notes and Queries*, October 16th, 1886, p. 306).

R. SINKER.

6, Northam Road, Oxford, Dec. 8, 1886.

In days when thousands of students find it necessary to use shorthand it is a misfortune of almost national dimensions that a national book of reference like the 'Encyclopedia Britannica' should omit a description of the leading systems of shorthand of later date than Pitman's. A few years ago there was a prolonged discussion as to the comparative merits of some dozen systems of shorthand, the authors of which systems claimed a preference over Pitman's. I endeavoured to set forth the superior advantages of "Shorthand Shortened," a combination arranged thirty years ago of the best features of the works of Gurney, Odell, Pitman, &c. My book is out of print, but not before, at the lowest estimate, scores of reporters and others made the theory their own, and put it to practical use. Authors of other systems ran "Shorthand Shortened" very close, and invented features of peculiar merit not possessed by phonography.

I would suggest that in the next edition of the 'Encyclopedia Britannica,' and in lesser works of similar character, use should be made of the discussion above referred to, which was condensed into a small book and published by Gill (170, Strand), with lithographed specimens of the systems. I can give this advice with comparative impartiality, inasmuch as the editor of the book in question did not award the palm to

D. A. PEACHEY.

DANTE ROSSETTI'S WORKS.

YOUR issue of November 27th contained the long-looked-for definitive information as to the contents of the new edition of the works of D. G. Rossetti; but it is somewhat disappointing to those of his admirers who, like myself, have long been the possessors of the 'Poems' (1870), 'Poems' (1881), 'Ballads and Sonnets' (1881), 'Dante and his Circle' (1874), and 'The Early Italian Poets' (1861).

I had fully hoped that all new matter would have been issued separately in one volume, so that purchasers of previous editions would by this one new volume complete their set of the works of their beloved poet. The old matter reappearing in the new edition, not having undergone any revision or alteration from the text of 1881, is simply not wanted by, and is superfluous to, owners of the 1881 and previous editions, but they are compelled to purchase this new edition for them to at all have the new matter so long wished for in collected book form.

Is it quite impracticable, therefore, for the benefit of such old admirers of the great poet, to issue a limited edition of one volume containing only new matter, in style (and price!) matching the 1881 edition? This will fully content the owners of old editions and in no way interfere with this new collected and doubtless final edition which is, of course all that can be desired by all who now and henceforth buy their Rossetti for the first time. The great bulk of the contents of this new edition seems to threaten smaller type and a less handsome page than that of 1881.

May I also suggest that the top edge of these volumes be gilt? The beautiful covers and end papers quite preclude any idea of rebinding without irreparable loss; but the thick paper in cutting gives such a very broken edge as to form a more than usually successful trap for the

dust, which would be quite avoided by gilt tops, these also being in fuller harmony with the general format.

FRED. H. EVANS.

J. N. MADVIG.

IN Prof. Madvig the world has lost one of the two or three classical scholars to whom their contemporaries would unhesitatingly assign a place in the first rank, who can be classed along with Casaubon, Bentley, Ruhnken, Hermann, and Lachmann. Beyond all dispute he was the greatest Latin scholar of the age. Since the death of Ritschl the Germans have ceased to contest the fact, and to other nations it was evident at an earlier period. His contributions to the criticism of Cicero and Livy can never be forgotten, for he was one of those who do not merely do work useful to their generation, but leave permanent traces of their influence on scholarship.

He was born as long ago as August 7th, 1804, at Svaneke, a small town in the island of Bornholm in the Baltic, and studied at the University of Copenhagen. He established himself there as a *Privat Dozent* in 1826, and in the same year he published his tractate upon Asconius Pedianus as a commentator on Cicero's 'Orations.' He followed this up almost at once with his 'Emendationes in Ciceronis Libros Philosophicos,' two monographs which at once established his reputation as a Ciceronian scholar, a reputation which was increased by his 'Epistola Critica' addressed to Orelli on the 'Orations.' In 1834 he collected these and other monographs in a volume of 'Opuscula Academica.' In 1839 appeared his most celebrated work, his masterly edition of the 'De Finibus,' which may be fairly said to have revolutionized the study of Cicero's philosophical writings. Two years afterwards he issued his Latin grammar, which, excellently translated by Mr. Woods, we believe from the German translation revised by Madvig, made the name of the great Danish scholar familiar to English schoolboys. He further issued a pamphlet explanatory of the views adopted in his grammar, which created some irritation in the Fatherland owing to his sharp remarks on German grammarians. A subsequent volume on Greek syntax was rendered into English by the late Archdeacon of Chichester. In 1860 appeared his celebrated volume of 'Emendationes Livianæ,' which prepared the way for an admirable critical recension of the text of Livy, which was superintended by Madvig and one of his ablest pupils, Prof. Üssing, who is now publishing an edition of Plautus. After this task had been brought to a successful issue the veteran scholar published two volumes of 'Adversaria Critica,' and promised a third. In 1882, though in the meanwhile he had become blind, he brought out an elaborate work on 'The Constitution and Government of the Roman State.'

Prof. Madvig took an active part in politics for many years, having been elected a member of the Danish Diet in 1839. In November 1848, he was appointed Minister of Public Worship, and remained in office till 1852, when he became Director of Public Instruction. His influence in the Chamber was great, and he felt keenly the untoward result of the war of 1864.

In 1879 he was made a Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour.

Literary Gossip.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. announce for early publication a book of unusual interest in connexion with the circular recently addressed to the colonial governments by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. This is a memoir of Sir Peter Scratchley, late High Commissioner of New Guinea, who, in conjunction with Sir William Jervois, planned in 1877 a complete system of Australian and New Zealand defence, which

has in great part been adopted. Mr. C. Kinloch Cooke, the writer of the memoir, has made a special study of the subject, and has contributed several articles on Pacific questions to the *Nineteenth Century*. All Sir Peter Scratchley's papers have been placed at his disposal, and the authorities of the Colonial Office are understood to have expressed much interest in the work. Special chapters will be devoted to torpedo defence, to submarine mines, and to Australian local forces. The book will also contain a detailed account of Sir Peter's work in New Guinea.

We understand that, in accordance with the suggestions made in our columns and in those of several of our contemporaries, Messrs. Chapman & Hall have arranged for the issue of what is hoped will be a really satisfactory edition of 'The Pickwick Papers.' The new edition will probably be published on the day of the Queen's accession, and it will contain facsimiles of all the original drawings, including some never yet published.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will issue immediately a new volume of addresses by Mr. Lowell, containing the well-known address on democracy delivered at the Midland Institute, and others on Dean Stanley, Garfield, Fielding, Coleridge, Wordsworth, and Don Quixote.

It is said that Mr. Ernest Coleridge's 'Life of Samuel Taylor Coleridge' has made great progress, and is likely to be published early next year. Mr. Hall Caine's short biography of Coleridge is announced for January 20th.

MR. WILLIAM STEBBING's book, 'Some Verdicts of History Reviewed,' is in the press, and will very shortly be published by Mr. Murray. The volume treats chiefly of characters and characteristics of the eighteenth century.

MESSRS. LONGMAN are about to publish part i. of a new and enlarged edition of Prof. Bain's 'Rhetoric and Composition.' In this edition the author proposes to omit a number of the topics comprised in the existing work, and to bestow a greatly expanded treatment upon points selected on account of their importance as well as their suitability to pupils of a certain standing. In part i. the subjects are: Order of Words, Number of Words, the Sentence, the Paragraph, Figures of Speech, and Intellectual Qualities of Style. The second part, which will speedily follow, is exclusively devoted to the emotional qualities of style, and is meant to be an introduction to the higher criticism of poetical literature. The first part will be accompanied by a small volume entitled 'On Teaching English,' which is partly controversial and partly didactic. It discusses the various methods of English teaching at present in use, and exemplifies the rhetorical method in a series of select lessons. It also handles at some length the vexed question of the definition of poetry.

MISS YONGE's "Jubilee Book," which has been announced for some time past under the title of 'The Victorian Half-Century,' will be published next week by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. While the public events of the reign are duly recorded, special attention is devoted to the personal history of the

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Queen, and it is said that the proofs have been submitted to the best authority.

MESSRS. LONGMAN have in the press a biography of Sir Joseph Napier, Bart., formerly Lord Chancellor of Ireland, by Mr. A. C. Ewald. All private letters and papers have been placed unreservedly in the hands of the author by Lady Napier. The work contains correspondence from the late Lords Derby and Beaconsfield, Mr. Gladstone, the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Eglinton, Lord Chancellor Chelmsford, Lord Ashbourne, and other distinguished statesmen, and throws much new light upon the political history of the times. Sir Joseph Napier was Attorney-General for Ireland in Lord Derby's Government of 1852, and introduced on that occasion his Irish Land Bills, often alluded to by recent legislators on the same subject.

MR. CAINE's new story, 'A Son of Hagar, a Romance of our Time,' will be published by Messrs. Chatto & Windus about the middle of January. Messrs. Allan are to publish a 'History of the United States,' by Mr. Percy Greg, and Mr. Redway announces a 'History of Tithes.'

MR. WINSLOW JONES has, with genuine enthusiasm, continued his researches in connection with the lost Chaucer rolls, and has already suggested another Somersetshire muniment room likely to contain these missing treasures—that of Sir Alexander Acland-Hood. Somersetshire antiquaries have never succeeded in tracing Collinson's MSS., but if these could be found, they would, no doubt, materially help to solve the mystery at present surrounding the Park Rolls of North Petherton. Collinson appears to have derived his account of North Petherton from some MSS. of which the original compiler was the Rev. George Harbin, the Nonjuror, who drew up with great accuracy accounts of several West-country families.

PROF. JEBB's 'Introduction to Homer' will be published in a few days by Messrs. MacLehose, of Glasgow. He is now engaged on a second edition of his 'Œdipus Tyrannus.' The 'Antigone,' forming the third volume of his Sophocles, will appear next year.

THE tract by Brereton on North Virginia, noticed by us a short time since, was sold by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson on the 15th inst. for the extraordinary sum of 265*l*.

THE title of the "Selden Society" is an excellent one, but the objects of this society, of which we made mention last week, as set out in the "approval list" just issued, are not sufficiently definite. "The printing of inedited MSS. and the publication of new editions and translations of works having an important bearing on English legal history," and the "collection of materials for a history of English law," make the scheme wide enough in scope, but altogether too vague in details. Then, in undertaking the collection of materials for a dictionary of Norman-French and legal terms, the Society will be entering into competition with a Government editor who has for some years been specially engaged on this task. We allude to Mr. Pike, the editor of the Year Books in the Rolls Series. If the Selden Society would promise to commence at once an edition of the black-letter Year Books, under the editorship of one of its "approvers," Mr. F. W. Maitland, it would readily command wide support.

THE Monthly List of Parliamentary Papers for November, 1886, contains the titles of 1 House of Lords Paper, 11 House of Commons Reports and Papers, and 14 Papers by Command. The House of Lords Paper is a Report from the Select Committee on the Endowed Schools Acts. The House of Commons Reports and Papers include the two annual returns as to gas undertakings, viz., of those in the hands of local authorities, and of those not so characterized. There is also the Annual Return of the Street and Road Tramways. The Index to the Report of the Select Committee on the Shop Hours' Regulation Bill forms by itself a substantial volume. There are also the Return respecting Building Societies; the Sixty-fourth Report of the Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues Commissioners; and a Report by the Board of Trade on Weights and Measures, with Diagrams. Among the Papers by Command we note the British and Foreign Agricultural Returns for 1886, and the Forty-seventh Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records.

A LINK between the last century and the present has just passed away in the person of Herr Jakob Zipfler at the small South German town of Forst. Zipfler, who died at the age of ninety-nine, used to act as an errand boy to Schiller. One of his most pleasant recollections was the fact that in 1802, when taking home to Schiller at Jena a new pair of trousers from the tailor with whom he was apprenticed, the poet gave him a liberal gratuity, with the words: "This is to refresh our acquaintance."

THE next issue of the *Antiquary* will, we are told, show some improvements in its arrangement. Among the articles to be contributed will be 'Some Traces of Paganism in Gaelic Words,' by Dr. Munroe; 'Remains of Old Woking,' by A. C. Bickley, illustrated by some drawings by the author; an hitherto unnoticed proclamation of Queen Elizabeth recording an attack on Lincoln's Inn by the apprentices; and the first part of 'Old Cornish Fonts, Bells, Altar and Corporation Plate,' by John Gatley. The proclamation of James I. on his "Majesties Stile of King of Great Britaine" will be noted, as it contains some passages curiously interesting at the present time.

THE Free Libraries Act has been adopted at Fulham and Lambeth. A meeting was held on Monday last at Newton Heath, a thickly populated suburb of Manchester, to discuss the desirability of adopting the Act there. There were only a few dissentients, but a poll of the ratepayers was granted.

BISHOP ARNOLD VON IPOLYI-STUMMER died at Grosswardein on December 2nd in his sixty-third year. During the last forty years he has held an eminent place in the national literature of Hungary through his historical studies, and especially by his researches into the art history and archaeology of the land.

THE *Law Quarterly Review* for January, 1887, will contain articles on the 'International Copyright Union,' by J. H. G. Bergne, C.M.G.; 'The County Court System,' by Judge Chalmers; 'Possession in the Roman Law,' by John M. Lightwood; 'Compensation for Misdescription in Sales of Land,' by William Webster; and 'Stoic

Terminology in Roman Law,' by Wolseley Emerton.

WE are glad to hear that Prof. Max Müller will probably lecture next term at Oxford on the Vedas.

AS usual at this time of year, sundry magazines are changing publishers. *Illustrations*, Mr. F. G. Heath's pictorial magazine, will henceforth be published by Messrs. W. Kent & Co., instead of by Messrs. Gardner, Darton & Co. *Northampton Notes and Queries* will from the 1st of January be published by Mr. Elliot Stock.

THE memoirs of Count Beust will be published in the first week in January. They are not quite complete, Count Beust having been prevented by illness from continuing the narrative beyond the close of his tenure of the Austrian Embassy in London. Their title is 'Three Quarters of a Century.'

MR. J. W. ZAEHNSDORF asks us to say that he is carrying on the bindery of his late father, of which he has had entire management for the last four years.

THE Rev. G. H. Gwilliam, Hertford College, Oxford, has prepared for press a critical edition of the New Testament in Syriac (the Peshito version), a publication much wanted both for criticism of the New Testament and for Syriac scholars. We understand that he will give in parallel columns the Greek text emended according to the Syriac.

SOME years ago the author of 'John Halifax, Gentleman,' published a "Parable for Young and Old," entitled 'The Little Lame Prince and his Travelling Cloak,' with twenty-four illustrations by Mr. J. McL. Ralston. The volume has been out of print for some time, but we understand that a new edition is to be issued immediately by Messrs. Macmillan & Co.

WE regret to hear of the death of Mr. Robert Williams, formerly Fellow of Merton College, Oxford. He was the son of a medical man, and obtained a Junior Studentship at Christ Church in Natural Science, but took his degree in 1864 in the First Class in Literis Humanioribus, and obtained great celebrity as a coach for Greats, reducing the examination in the 'Ethics' to something like an absurdity. In 1869, however, he abandoned Oxford for London, and became an active journalist, being for several years a leader-writer on the *Daily Telegraph* and also on the *Observer*, a task for which his knowledge, readiness, and abundant wit fitted him in a high degree. When he quitted Oxford he published an excellent translation of the 'Nicomachean Ethics,' of which a second edition appeared in 1876. About ten or twelve years ago Mr. Williams was a frequent contributor to this journal.

THE eminent Chinese scholar Prof. James Legge is going to bring out a metrical translation of the Psalms according to the Hebrew text.

THE death is announced of Dr. John Nicholson, of Penrith, the translator of Ewald's 'Hebrew Grammar,' and, from the Arabic, of 'The History of the Fatimite Dynasty in Africa.' He was the eldest son of the late Rev. M. Nicholson, Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, and long Principal of Codrington College, and was born at Barbadoes in 1808. After taking his degree

at Oxford, he studied at Göttingen under Ewald. The last forty years of his life were quietly spent at Penrith engaged on Oriental studies in the midst of his extensive library.

PROF. SAYCE will pass the winter in England, and not go to Greece as stated in some of the papers. None of his antiquities was lost in the fire at Queen's College the other day.

In our number for January 1st we shall print our customary series of articles on the literature of Continental Europe. Among them will be Belgium, by M. E. de Laveleye and M. P. Fredericq; Bohemia, by Dr. Backovský; Denmark, by M. V. Petersen; France, by M. G. Sarrazin; Germany, by Hofrath Zimmermann; Greece, by M. Lambros; Holland, by E. van Campen; Norway, by M. Jaeger; Russia, by Prof. Storjénko; Spain, by Señor Riaño; and Sweden, by M. Ahnfelt. This will be the last occasion on which we shall publish these articles at the beginning of the year, when the demands on our space are excessive. In future we propose to issue them in July, giving in next July an account of the literature of the first six months of 1887.

SCIENCE

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

A Text-Book on Steam and Steam Engines. By Andrew Jamieson, Principal of the College of Science and Art, Glasgow. (Griffin & Co.)—The first question that suggests itself to the reviewer, on receiving a new work on this subject, with regard to the author, is "Why could he not let it alone?" Such a question, however, does not arise on the perusal of Prof. Jamieson's text-book. If his oral teaching possesses the well-informed lucidity of his printed work the students of the Glasgow professor have to be congratulated. Thrown into the form of a series of lectures, to each of which are appended a certain number of questions for the student, the work is primarily intended as a guide to preparation for examination. But nothing can be more unlike an aid to cram, and those readers must be fully abreast of the times in their knowledge of steam engineering who can consult the text-book without obtaining fresh and well-digested information. To give anything like an analysis of the book would far exceed our prescribed limits. We can only refer to one or two examples of the manner in which Mr. Jamieson has bound together his descriptions of the latest improvements of the machinist with the history of that Frankenstein birth which has effected so mighty a revolution in the relations of man to the planet on which he dwells. Thus Jonathan Hornblower, of Penryn, who took out a patent for a single-acting pumping engine in 1781, has been accused of "selfish attempts to copy Mr. Watt's invention, without coming within the letter of his patent." Mr. Jamieson, after giving an abstract of Hornblower's specification and a diagram of his engine, says: "It will be quite apparent to students of the present day that Hornblower had actually devised not only the compound engine, but also the surface condenser (although his engine was but a single-acting one). He erected several engines on his plan, and, probably, the reason why they did not prove more economical than Watt's single-acting engines was that the pressure of the steam which could be generated in the boilers then constructed was too low. He applied to Parliament in 1792 for an extension of his patent, but was refused; and it is curious to note the severe criticism of early writers on his invention, the principle of which is nowadays so fully recognized." We step on for 105 years

from the date of Hornblower's patent, and are told that "Quadruple-expansion engines have not been much used as yet, but there can be little doubt that as surely as the compound engine replaced the simple condensing engine ten to fifteen years ago, and the present form of triple-expansion engine (only some five years of age) is fast supplanting the compound engine, so the quadruple-expansion engine will in a very few years be the common type for the propulsion of steam vessels. What we shall come to next remains to be seen, but it is most unlikely that we can go much further in the direction of increasing the pressure, the number of cylinders, and the number of expansions." If we say that the manner in which Prof. Jamieson fascinates the reader, first by the clearness of conception and next by the simplicity of expression which characterize his treatment of the technical subject on which he lectures, recalls the lecturing of Faraday, we shall pay a high, but not too high, compliment to the author of the 'Text-Book on Steam and Steam Engines.'

Catalogue of the Blastoids in the Geological Department of the British Museum. By Robert Etheridge, jun., and P. Herbert Carpenter, D.Sc., F.R.S. (Printed by order of the Trustees.)—This volume, though bearing the modest title of a 'Catalogue,' is in truth a complete monograph of the curious little group of fossils termed the Blastoids. It has been known to palæontologists for several years that the authors were engaged upon such a work. Originally it was intended to present the memoir to some learned society, and indeed several of the plates by which it is illustrated were prepared at the expense of the Royal Society. It happened, however, that a large number of the specimens on which the authors' observations were based were preserved in the palæontological collection of the British Museum, and hence the authorities of that institution, recognizing the value of the work, wisely undertook the responsibility of its publication. In order, we believe, to bring it within the range of official publications it has been issued nominally as a catalogue, and, as a matter of fact, it does include a description of the species represented in the national collection. Yet so far from being an inventory, or a *catalogue raisonné*, it is a comprehensive and readable book, giving a complete view—historical, descriptive, systematic, and critical—of the rather obscure group of fossils to which it is devoted. It was Thomas Say, of Philadelphia, who, as far back as 1825, first distinguished the fossils of which *Pentremites* is the type as a distinct group, and bestowed upon them the name of *Blastoidea*—a name suggested by the fact that the summit of the body usually bears some resemblance to a flower-bud. Our knowledge of the group has hitherto been based mainly on the classical work of Ferdinand Roemer, the distinguished palæontologist of Breslau. But Roemer's work was published five-and-thirty years ago, and much has happened in palæontology since then. The blastoids form an extinct group of stalked echinoderms, or *Pelmatozoa*, and our knowledge of their living representatives has greatly increased of late years—especially by the labours of Dr. P. H. Carpenter, to whom the crinoids collected during the voyage of the Challenger were entrusted for description. It became a matter of necessity to review the palæozoic group of blastoids in the light of these recent researches, and it is well that the review has been undertaken by such competent authorities. Dr. Carpenter, with his exceptional knowledge of living crinoids, and Mr. Etheridge, with his intimate familiarity with fossil echinoderms, have wisely united their forces; and the product of this union is a monograph of substantial value—a distinct gain to palæontological science. The volume is notable as the outcome of steady work, which, we have reason to know, has been carried on in the private time of both authors. Mr. Etheridge, though an officer of the Museum, contributed his share of

the work extra-officially, while Dr. Carpenter devoted to his task such leisure as falls to the lot of a science master at Eton College. The volume, therefore, represents the labour of united love; and the publication of such a work—raised far above the level of official catalogues—reflects much credit on the powers that rule over our national collections in the Cromwell Road.

ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

BARNARD'S comet (*f*, 1886) passed its perihelion about midnight on the 16th inst. It was at its brightest last week, when it was conspicuous to the naked eye, with two tails, of which the shorter (which, according to Dr. J. Franz, of Königsberg, was about 15° in length on the 5th inst.) appeared almost rectilinear. Even now the comet's brightness is about twenty times as great as at the time of discovery, and it is visible in the early evening, as soon as the sky is sufficiently dark, in the constellation Aquila.

In Appendix II. to the *Washington Observations* for 1883 (published in advance of the volume itself) Prof. Asaph Hall gives an account of some most elaborate observations for determination of certain stellar parallaxes, with the corrected results. These are generally smaller than those found by other observers; and especially is this the case with regard to the star 6 Cygni B, the parallax of which is here found to be nearly insensible, although Sir Robert Ball had thought (see our "Notes" for October 7th, 1882) that it amounted to nearly half a second. For a Lyre, Prof. Hall's final value is 0".134; and for 61 Cygni (second star), 0".270. It will be remembered that the value determined for the latter by Bessel was 0".348; subsequent observers have thought it to be larger than this, whilst Prof. Hall, on the contrary, makes it somewhat smaller. Particular care has been taken to exclude all sources of systematic error from these observations, and great weight is to be attached to Prof. Hall's final results.

We cannot suffer the *Astronomical Register* to come to an end without bearing our testimony to the good and useful work which it has accomplished since it was started by the late Mr. Sandford Gorton in January, 1863. It was originally of small dimensions, and intended to serve as a sort of astronomical *Notes and Queries*, "a medium of communication for amateurs and others." With the second volume the size was increased to twenty-four pages, and a large amount of valuable information appeared in the shape of correspondence and otherwise. In consequence of failing health, Mr. Gorton was obliged to relinquish the editorship in 1872, and he died early in 1879. Meanwhile an enterprising rival had made its appearance under the title of *The Observatory*, which was started in April, 1877, by Mr. Christie, then chief assistant at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, and transferred in 1881 (when he succeeded Sir George Airy as Astronomer Royal) to Mr. Maunder, who afterwards availed himself of the assistance of two of his colleagues as co-editors. The ability with which this has been conducted by successive editors, placed in a position at the headquarters of astronomy in this country, has given it a decided superiority over the older magazine, and it is just about to enter on a tenth year of its existence with every prospect of a long continuance. Last year a new feature was introduced in the shape of an additional number, which, under the title of a 'Companion,' gave a most useful collection of tabular and other matter as a guide to amateur observers during the year. This has now just appeared again (simultaneously with the ordinary number for December, 1886) for 1887, so as to be available for discussion and reference before the year actually begins. Since Mr. Gorton was unable himself to superintend the publication of the *Astronomical Register* it has been edited by the Rev. J. C. Jackson, F.R.A.S.,

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who, having carried it on until the number of volumes is equal to that of the books of the Iliad, has now brought it to a close. About four years ago a general index to the first twenty volumes was compiled by Mr. F. W. Levander, F.R.A.S., and we hope that he will shortly supplement it by supplying a similar index to the last four volumes. To the editors of the *Observatory* we would suggest that a general index would be very desirable as soon as ten volumes are completed.

Mr. Latimer Clark's 'Transit Tables for 1887' have recently appeared, on the same plan as in preceding years.

We have received Mr. Neison's Report, as superintendent of the Natal Observatory, for the year 1885. The staff under him during the year consisted of an astronomical and of a meteorological assistant, besides which four ladies rendered him very valuable assistance as astronomical computers, particularly in his investigations in the lunar theory. Not much use was made of the equatorial, but a considerable number of observations was obtained with the three-inch transit, and also of observations of zenith stars for the latitude of the observatory, which it is proposed to determine with great accuracy as one of the primary points in the triangulation of South Africa.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

It has been decided by the Government of India to defer for another year the further surveys and explorations on the north-eastern frontier of Assam which had been contemplated by the Chief Commissioner of that province. There is a probability, however, that a force may be sent from the hill state of Manipur, on the east of Bengal, into the Chindwin Valley *via* Tammu. This would enable the extension of Major Badgley and Mr. Ogle's survey of Manipur in 1881-82 to be carried out, and perhaps also admit of the connexion of the triangulation lately executed by Capt. Hobday about Mandale with the triangulation of India.

The *Pioneer* states that on Capt. Gore, R.E., will devolve the duty of constructing the new general map of Afghanistan from all the surveys, reconnaissances, and explorations made by the Afghan Boundary Commission.

Mr. Horace Francis Harrison Smith, R.N., who accompanied Admiral Sir William Hewett on his mission to Abyssinia, and who a few months ago was selected by Lord Salisbury to present a sword of honour to King John—an undertaking which he successfully accomplished—has submitted to the Foreign Office a plan for the relief of Emin Pasha by way of Abyssinia. He proposes that the expedition, after communicating with the king, should proceed to the south-west frontier of that country to a spot as near as possible to Fashoda on the Nile. Mr. Smith thinks that during the journey to that spot it would be possible to ascertain with certainty where Emin Pasha was last known to be; and he does not anticipate, in connexion with the Nile route itself, any hostility or unfriendliness on the part of the natives which could not be surmounted by tact and judgment, combined with a reasonable expenditure of backsheesh. Should, however, the Nile route prove impracticable, he believes that through the influence of Abyssinia a rescue could still be effected by subsidizing the tribes on the borders of that country, whereby stores might be carried to Emin Pasha, and the means provided for enabling him, under the escort of the friendly natives, to come down to Fashoda and meet the mission there, or on the confines of Abyssinia. But Mr. Smith is sanguine of the possibility of white men making the entire journey, assisting Emin Pasha to acquit himself of his responsibilities, enabling him to get his steamers under weigh (if they still exist), and returning with him as they came. Mr. Smith admits that the distance to Wadelai *via* Abyssinia is somewhat greater than the route

from Mombasa to the same place, but he points out that the climate is healthier in the case of the former route, and that it has the additional advantage of providing the expedition with a new base on the Abyssinian frontier. He estimates that the expense would be from 8,000*l.* to 10,000*l.* We cannot approve of Mr. Smith's plan. Fashoda is, of course, in the hands of the rebels, and would have to be captured. Of the country lying between Abyssinia and the Equatorial province we know next to nothing.

Dr. R. W. Felkin in the *Scottish Geographical Magazine* for December furnishes a highly interesting account of the past career of Dr. Emin Pasha, and discusses the various routes which a proposed pacific relief expedition might follow. He rejects the route through the Masai country proposed by Mr. J. Thomson, the direct Victoria Nyanza route through Uganda, and the Congo route recently followed by Mr. Lenz, and proposes instead a route which would follow the eastern margin of Stanley's Muta Nzige. Dr. Felkin's route would undoubtedly yield important geographical results, but it leads largely through an unexplored region, the difficulties of which may turn out to be very considerable. If Uganda is to be avoided, then the route proposed by Mr. Thomson offers the best chances of success. Lake Baringo and the Turkan country to the north of it have repeatedly been visited by caravans from Pangani, and are no more, or perhaps less, exposed to predatory incursions of the Waganda than are the districts on the Muta Nzige. Before starting on such an enterprise the objects aimed at should be clearly defined. It would be comparatively easy to furnish Dr. Emin with such articles as he applies for in his most recent letters, but difficult to provide him with the means of maintaining himself until something shall "turn up," and lead to a reopening of the Nile route. Dr. Emin evidently means to remain at his post. The forces apparently at his disposal would enable him at any time to effect a retreat to the east coast. In the same number of the *Magazine* we notice a paper on Guernsey by Mr. Geo. G. Chisholm, an article on the Hudson's Bay route by Dr. John Rae, and a severe criticism by Mr. J. T. Wills of certain misleading statements made in the official handbook called 'Her Majesty's Colonies.'

Dr. Jühlke, the chief representative of the German East African Company, is reported to have been murdered by Galla near Kisimayu. Dr. Jühlke was most active between 1884 and 1885 in concluding treaties with African chiefs on behalf of his company, and quite recently he founded a station at Port Durnford, to the south of the river Jub.

The second instalment of the second volume of the *Journal* of the Manchester Geographical Society is exceptionally rich in interesting matter. Sir Joseph Lee presents some information on the proceedings of the North-West African Company near Cape Juby; Sir F. J. Goldsmid discusses the railways of the west of India; and Consul O'Neill furnishes information on recent Portuguese explorations in Eastern Africa, which is doubly welcome as it is illustrated by an original Portuguese map of the country to the south of the Zambezi, upon which the routes of Capt. Paiva de Andrada are laid down. There are various papers on geographical education read at the exhibition of the Royal Geographical Society's collection at Manchester. The number of misprints in the text and on the maps of the Society is truly appalling, and this matter should be attended to. Who, for instance, is "M. Weissmann, co-editor of the *Mitteilungen*?" what is the name of the North-West African Company's station, Tarfaya or Jafarja? Again, why should not the writers in this valuable journal follow some definite rules in spelling geographical names, such, for instance, as were laid down by the Council of the Royal Geographical Society?

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Dec. 9.—Prof. G. G. Stokes, President, in the chair.—The President announced that he had appointed as Vice-Presidents the Treasurer (Dr. J. Evans), Dr. A. Geikie, Prof. B. Price, and Sir G. H. Richards.—The following papers were read: 'Note to a Paper on the Geometrical Construction of the Cell of the Honey Bee,' by Prof. H. Hennessy, 'A New Method for the Quantitative Estimation of the Micro-organisms present in the Atmosphere,' by Dr. P. F. Frankland, 'Further Experiments on the Distribution of Micro-organisms in Air (by Hesse's method),' by Dr. P. F. Frankland and Mr. T. G. Hart, 'On the Intra-ovarian Egg of some Osseous Fishes,' by Dr. R. Schaff, and 'Note on a New Form of Direct-Vision Spectroscope,' by Prof. Living and Prof. Dewar.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Dec. 13.—General R. Strachey V.P., in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Sir D. Campbell of Barcalaine, Bart. Rev. E. E. Wood, Messrs H. A. Bryden, A. J. Day, W. Keswick, P. Mathews, W. Prince, G. Sadler, J. McDougall, E. H. W. Tripe, and H. P. Woodward.—The paper read was 'Journey of the Expedition under Col. Woodthorpe, R.E., from Upper Assam to the Irawadi and Return over the Patkoi Range,' by Major C. R. Macgregor (Bengal Staff Corps).

ASTRONOMICAL.—Dec. 10.—Prof. J. W. L. Glaisher, President, in the chair.—Capt. R. Dowling, the Rev. R. S. Hutchings, the Rev. H. F. Slade, and Mr. W. Teasdale were elected Fellows.—Mr. Buckney exhibited and described a chronograph with a parabolic pendulum which had been sent over by Mr. Ellery, of Melbourne, to be exhibited at the Colonial Exhibition. The pendulum is a modification of Huyghens's parabolic pendulum. As the driving power is increased and the pendulum, which revolves round a vertical axis, flies outwards, it unwraps two wires by which it is suspended from the evolute of a parabola, so that the bob of the pendulum flies outward in a parabolic arc, and the time of revolution is always constant however large the circle described.—Mr. Knobel read a paper by Dr. Copeland on the Nova Andromedæ. Immediately on the receipt of Dr. Hartwig's telegram with respect to the change in the nebula, a circular was sent out from Dun Echt, and observations were commenced. When the new star was first seen on the 1st of September, 1885, it appeared to be of the 7½ magnitude. With the spectroscopic only very slight indications of bright lines could be detected. By October 19th it had sunk to the 8.7 magnitude. By January 2nd, 1886, it had fallen to the 13.5 magnitude. By January 30th it was not seen with certainty by the 15-inch Dun Echt refractor, and since that time it has been lost sight of. It seems to have decreased irregularly, falling more rapidly at first.—Col. Tupman read a note on an erratic meteor which was observed by Mr. B. J. Hopkins on the 4th of December. It appeared in Ursa Major, and after moving slowly through an arc of some 30° it appeared to split in two, one portion of it appearing to pursue a parallel path at a higher level than the other. Col. Tupman thought that there were probably two meteors moving parallel to one another, and that one did not plunge into the atmosphere till a second or two after the other.—Mr. Ranyard, in continuing a paper partly read at the last meeting, said that it had been assumed by most meteoric observers that a meteor as bright as a first or second magnitude star might be caused by the motion through the air of a body no larger than a mustard seed. But there was evidence to show that small meteors seldom penetrate the atmosphere to a depth much below seventy miles, and that consequently, with the exception of meteors which appear in or near the zenith, they are generally seen at a distance of more than one hundred miles from the observer. A standard candle seen at the distance of a mile appears only a little brighter than a first magnitude star, consequently an electric lamp of nearly ten thousand candle power would at the distance of one hundred miles only give the light of a first magnitude star, and a lamp of one hundred candle power would only be equivalent to a sixth magnitude star. Meteors giving less light than this would not be seen by the naked eye. Mr. Ranyard thought that it might be assumed that a meteor which gives the light of a sixth magnitude star has a surface at least as large as the incandescent portion of the carbon in an electric arc lamp which gives the light of one hundred standard candles; for the electric lighting carbon is a very refractory body, and gives out more light in being driven into vapour than other substances which have been experimented with.—The following papers were taken as read: 'Formule for Binary Stars,' by Mr. J. E. Gore, 'Observations of Comets Winnecke and Finlay, 1886, made with the 11½-inch Equatorial and Filar Micrometer at the Sydney Observatory,' 'Ephemeris of the Satellites of Uranus, 1887,' by Mr. A. Marth, 'Second Supplement to Sir John

Herschel's General Catalogue of Nebulae and Clusters of Stars,' by Mr. J. L. E. Dreyer, and 'Observations of Comet f, 1886 (Barnard), at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.'

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Dec. 9.—Mr. J. Evans, President, in the chair.—Lord Fitzhardinge was elected a Fellow.—Mr. W. Maskell exhibited a carved board with figures in low relief of Mercy, Justice, Charity, Faith, and Hope, from an old public-house in Bristol, where it was formerly used as a scoring board.—Mr. J. Whitehead exhibited an early fifteenth century mazer with quaint English inscription; the Bishop of Dover three mazers, one of early fourteenth century date, from St. John's Hospital, Canterbury; Mr. S. E. Shirley a fifth example of a mazer, with an inscribed band; and the Dean of Chester a small silver parcel-gilt chalice, with London hall-marks for 1497-8.—Mr. R. S. Ferguson communicated a report, as local secretary, of antiquities found in Cumberland.—Mr. J. Allen Brown read a paper on his discovery of 'A Palaeolithic Workshop Floor of the Drift Period near Ealing.' He pointed out that the discovery of this palaeolithic working site fully confirmed his previous observations, that such old floors or former land surfaces are often discernible in North-west Middlesex. It is about one hundred feet above the present bed of the Thames and about two miles distant from it, near the junction between the Creffield Road and Mason's Green Road, Acton. The floor is here about six feet from the surface, with a steeper slope to the river than the present surface. In an area of about forty feet square were found nearly six hundred unabraded worked flints, including spear or javelin heads from five to six inches long, neatly trimmed to a point, and of the same form as those of obsidian now employed by the natives of New Caledonia, the Admiralty Islands, and Australia, such as have not only been described by Messrs. Lartet and Christy, but by Dr. J. Evans. Roughly wrought haches, axes or choppers formed from flakes chipped on one or both faces to a cutting edge, were discovered, both finished and unfinished, and correspond with similar tools described by Dr. Evans. Some of the specimens were worked on both faces and pointed, thus approaching the St. Acheul types. Among the most interesting implements exhibited were borers, awls, or drills, and knives formed from flakes often neatly worked on the edge with fine secondary work, and also saws chipped with a distinctly serrated edge, with other tools apparently intended to be used as chisels, &c. Waste flakes as well as blocks of flint which had been worked upon were also found at this spot, and in Ealing, about two miles distant, in a deposit of about the same age, a boulder of metamorphic rock, concave on both faces and roughened and scored in the hollows from use, was met with; it is 7½ in. long, and a quartzite boulder which fits the hollows was found near it in fine gravel. They are the first pounding-stones discovered in the drift deposits. Mr. Brown showed that the fabricators of the relics discovered at the workshop site lived contemporaneously with some of the older quaternary fauna, and that they may, therefore, be considered as older than M. de Mortillet's Moustérien epoch, and may perhaps belong to the Chellén period; but it is evident most of them were intended for mounting in handles or shafts, as such implements are huffed now by Australians and others, and not as the 'coups de poings' of M. de Mortillet.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Dec. 2.—Mr. T. H. Baylis in the chair.—Mr. T. Bent read a paper 'On Homeric Parallels from Modern Greek Life,' in which the following subjects were treated of: reasons for the continuity of myth and custom in the remoter Turkish islands; a modern village assemblage like a Homeric one; a pilgrimage on Karpathos, parallels from Homeric meals; the singing, dancing, and game-playing just as described by Homer,—female life: spinning at the loom, embroidery; at the wells; fear of raven's croak; a washing picnic on Samos compared with Nausicaa's; treading in trenches the dirty linen,—mountain cave life: cheese making, and tending of lambs, like that described in Homer's account of the cave of Polyphemus; the superhuman strength of Cyclops compared with modern dragons; imagined strength of ancestors illustrated from modern life,—the nymphs of the streams and glades still existing in nereids; marriage with nereids and god-like progeny; manner of catching nereids compared with that of Proteus; superstitions concerning sneezing; the sun and its similarity to Hyperion; Helios acting as spy and messenger,—death parallels: similarity between the modern Charon and the Homeric Hades; the apocalypse of the Virgin compared with the eleventh Odyssey; death wails; the laying out of the dead; the dirges sung by relatives; quick burial compared with similar accounts in the Homeric poems.—Dr. Fitz Patrick confirmed what Mr. Bent had said and instanced further parallels, many of which are to be

accounted for by the fact that Christianity had never succeeded in driving out the old pagan customs.—Mr. Justice Pinney said that some of the customs mentioned by Mr. Bent still existed among the Brahmins of India.—Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite contributed a paper 'On the Remains of an Ankerhold at Bengoe Church, Herts.' This had only lately been recognized as a *domus inclusi*, and was clearly proved by the evidences of the stonework, or rather the blocked-up holes in it, which received the ends of the roof timbers. It appears that a wooden hut had been planted against the outside wall on the north side of the apsidal-ended chancel, and an entrance rudely broken into it from the chancel. There are no signs of the existence of a door, so that the anker would have passed freely from his den to the church. Such liberty was, indeed, not usual, and it seems to have rather rested with the recluse himself to settle the degree of strictness under which he chose to retire from the world. The hold measures about 8 ft. in length, the width is uncertain, and the height about 6 ft. A recess in the chancel wall outside indicates the anker's seat, and probably his sleeping-place also. From the rudeness of the work Mr. Micklethwaite was inclined to give to this little refuge a date earlier than the fourteenth century.—Admiral Tremlett exhibited a plan illustrating a system of disposing of the remains of the dead in prehistoric times, a system of which only three examples have as yet been found. The case in question consists of a series of three chambers, stone lined and covered, and connected by narrow passages, all of which were examined and planned in 1885. These remains are situated at Kerindervelen, near Kermarquer, Carnac. Admiral Tremlett also exhibited a drawing of a Roman cinerary urn, ornamented, from Finisterre.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Dec. 7.—Prof. W. H. Flower, President, in the chair.—Prof. Bell exhibited and made remarks on a specimen of a rare entozoon (*Tenia nana*) from the human subject.—Mr. Tegetmeier exhibited and made remarks on a pair of antlers of a deer, said to have been recently obtained in the Galtee Mountains in Ireland. They appeared to be those of the elk (*Alces machlis*).—Mr. F. E. Beddard read a paper on the development and structure of the ovum in the dipnoan fishes, in continuation of a research into the structure of the ovary in *Protopterus*. The author, besides being able to give a more complete account of the ovarian ova of *Protopterus*, was also able to supplement this account with some further notes respecting the structures observed in the ovary of *Ceratodus*.—Mr. A. Smith-Woodward read a paper on the anatomy and systematic position of the liassic selachian, *Squaloraja polyspondyla*. After a brief notice of previous researches, the author attempted an almost complete description of the skeletal parts of *Squaloraja*, as revealed by a fine series of fossils in the British Museum. He confirmed Davies's determination of the absence of the cephalic spine in certain individuals (presumably females), and added further evidence of its prehensile character, suggesting also that the various detached examples afforded indications of one or more new species. The author concluded with some general remarks on the affinities of the genus, and proposed to institute a new family, "Squalorajidae," which might be placed near the *Pristiophoridae* and *Rhinobatidae*.—Mr. Slater pointed out the characters of an apparently new parrot of the genus *Conurus*, from a specimen living in the Society's gardens. The species was proposed to be called *Conurus rubritorquis*.—Mr. F. Day communicated (on the part of Mr. J. D. Ogilby, of the Australian Museum, Sydney) a paper on an undescribed fish of the genus *Pimelopterus* from Port Jackson, N.S.W., proposed to be named *P. meridionalis*.—Papers were read: by Mr. G. A. Boulenger, on the South African tortoises allied to *Testudo geometrica*, who pointed out the characters of three new species of this group, which he proposed to call *Testudo trimeni*, *T. smithii*, and *T. fishi*; and a second on Prof. W. K. Parker's paper 'On the Skull of the Chameleons,' read at a previous meeting of the Society,—by Mr. O. Thomas, on the wallaby commonly known as *Lagorhynchus fasciatus*, showing that the dentition of this animal was entirely different in character not only from that of the typical species of *Lagorhynchus*, but even from that of all the other members of the subfamily Macropodinae; he therefore proposed to form a new genus for its reception, to which he gave the name of *Lagostrophus*,—and from Prof. R. Collett, on a new pouched mouse from Northern Queensland, which he proposed to name *Antechinus thomasi*.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Dec. 1.—Mr. M'Lachlan, President, in the chair.—Messrs. W. H. Miskin, R. E. Salway, and F. W. Biddle were elected Fellows.—Mr. H. Vaughan exhibited a long series of *Gnophos obscurata*, comprising specimens from various parts of Ireland, North Wales, Yorkshire, the New Forest, Folkestone, Lewes, and the Surrey Hills. The object

was to show the variation of the species in connexion with the geological formations of the various localities from which the specimens were obtained.—Mr. R. Adkin exhibited specimens of *Cidaria reticulata*, recently bred by Mr. H. Murray, of Carnforth, from larvae collected near Windermere, on *Impatiens noli-me-tangere*. Mr. Adkin said that as the food-plant was so extremely local, Mr. Murray had endeavoured to get the larvae to feed on some other species of balsam, including the large garden species, usually known as Canadian balsam, but that he had not succeeded in doing so.—Mr. Billups exhibited a number of living specimens of *Aleurodes vaporariorum*, obtained from a greenhouse at Snarebrook, where they had caused great havoc amongst tomato plants (*Lycopersicon esculentum*). He remarked that the species had been first figured and described by Prof. Westwood in the *Gardener's Chronicle*, 1856.—Mr. Poulton exhibited the blood of a larva of *Smerinthus tiliae*, and demonstrated, by means of a micro-spectroscope, the existence of chlorophyll therein.—Mr. G. T. Porritt exhibited forms of *Cidaria suffumata* from Huddersfield, and a series of small bilberry-fed *Hypsipetes elutata* from the Yorkshire moors, showing green, red-brown, and black forms.—Mr. S. Stevens exhibited forms of *Campogramma bilineata* and *Emmelesia albulata* from the Shetland Isles, and a curious variety of *Chelonia caja* from Norwich.—Mr. H. Goss read a letter from the Administrator-General of British Guiana, on the subject of the urticating properties possessed by the larvae and pupae of certain species of Lepidoptera collected in Demerara.—Mr. M'Lachlan read 'A Note concerning certain Nemopteridae.'—Miss E. A. Ormerod communicated a paper 'On the Occurrence of the Hessian Fly (*Cecidomyia destructor*) in Great Britain.' It appeared from this paper that there could be no longer any doubt as to the occurrence of the insect in this country, specimens obtained in Hertfordshire having been submitted to, and identified by, Prof. Westwood and by Mr. W. Saunders, of Ontario. Prof. Westwood said the specimens agreed exactly with Austrian specimens in his possession, sent to him some years ago by M. Lefebvre, who had received them from the late Dr. Hammerschmidt, of Vienna.—A discussion followed in which the President, Mr. C. O. Waterhouse, Mr. T. Wood, and others took part.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Dec. 7.—Mr. E. Woods, President, in the chair.—It was announced that ten Associate Members had been transferred to the class of Members, and it was reported that seventy-eight candidates had been admitted as Students.—The first ballot for the session resulted in the election of thirteen Members, seventy-seven Associate Members, and three Associates.—The paper read was 'On the Electric Lighthouses of Macquarie and of Tino,' by Dr. J. Hopkinson.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.—Dec. 13.—*Annual General Meeting.*—Mr. P. F. Nursey, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected as the Council and officers for the ensuing year: President, Prof. H. Robinson; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. A. T. Walmisley, A. F. Phillips, and M. O. Tarbotton; Ordinary Members of Council, Messrs. J. R. Baillie, R. W. P. Birch, W. B. Kinsey, W. Schönheyder, H. Adams, W. N. Colam, R. Harris, and W. A. Valon, the four latter gentlemen being new members of Council; Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. A. Williams; Auditor, Mr. A. Lass.

MATHEMATICAL.—Dec. 9.—Sir J. Cockle, President, in the chair.—Prof. D. J. Kikuchi was elected a Member, and Mr. Macaulay was admitted into the Society.—The following communications were made: 'The Linear Partial Differential Equations satisfied by Pure Ternary Reciprocants,' by Mr. E. B. Elliott; 'Circular Notes,' by Mr. R. Tucker; 'The Problem of the Duration of Play,' by Capt. Macmahon, R.A.; and 'Note on Two Annihilators in the Theory of Elliptic Functions,' by Mr. J. Griffiths.—Mr. Hammond spoke upon the subject of Capt. Macmahon's communication at the November meeting.

PHYSICAL.—Dec. 11.—Prof. McLeod, V.P., in the chair.—The Hon. R. Abercromby, Messrs. W. Natanson, E. Natanson, J. Wertheimer, and H. M. Elder were elected Members.—The following papers were read: 'On the Influence of Change of Condition from the Liquid to the Solid State on Vapour Pressure,' by Prof. W. Ramsay and Dr. S. Young, and 'On the Nature of Liquids as shown by the Thermal Properties of Stable and Dissociable Bodies,' by the same authors.—'An Account of Cauchy's Theory of Reflection and Refraction of Light,' by Mr. J. Walker. This paper is intended as a statement of the work previously done in the subject, and gives references to the original papers and "reproductions," &c., which will be of great value to persons studying this important branch of the

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theory of optics.—Mr. S. Bidwell exhibited and described a voltaic cell in which the electrolyte is dry peroxide of lead.

NEW SHAKESPEARE.—Dec. 10.—The Rev. W. A. Harrison in the chair.—A paper 'On Shakspeare's Knowledge and Use of Holy Scripture' was read by Mr. S. Cooper. Mr. Cooper dealt, firstly, with allusions to Bible personages; secondly, with the extent to which Shakspeare derived his religious principles from the Bible; and thirdly, with the extent to which Shakspeare was indebted to the Bible for his poetry.—The Chairman noticed that allusions to Bible persons were chiefly to characters already well known through the mysteries; the daily reading of the Psalter might account for the numerous allusions to the Psalms, while many quotations in the historical plays were taken bodily out of the originals, Holinshed, &c. But after making all allowances, one found the text of Shakspeare interwoven with Scripture in a most remarkable way. A good instance of his wide knowledge of the Bible was to be found in 'All's Well,' II. i. 141-4, where in four lines four Biblical events were alluded to, and that quite easily and naturally.—Dr. Furnivall held that Mr. Cooper started by assuming the question at issue. Before approaching this subject one must know what is dramatic and what is non-dramatic in Shakspeare, and Mr. Cooper supplied no canon to apply to the utterances in question.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Met. Asiatic, 4.—Some Remarks on the Narrative of Fa-Hien, Prof. S. Beal.
 — London Institution, 5.—Birds' Nests and Eggs, Mr. H. Seebohm.
 — Institute of British Architects, 6.—Marble, its Uses as suggested by the Past, Mr. W. Brindley.
 — Aristotelian, 8.—Mætracanthæ, Mr. A. W. Carr.
 — Society of Arts, 8.—Principle and Practice of Ornamental Design, Lecture IV, Mr. L. F. Day (Cantor Lecture).
 — Statistical, 7.—Selling Scales and other Methods of Wage Arrangements in the North of England, Mr. L. F. H. Price.
 — Civil Engineers, 8.—Use and Equipment of Engineering Laboratories, Prof. A. B. W. Kennedy.
 — Zoological, 8.—Atavism, Mr. J. B. Sutton; 'The Systematic Position of Sponges,' Dr. B. von Lendenfeld; 'Indian Earthworms,' Dr. A. G. Bourne; 'The Fin of *Ceratodus*,' Mr. G. B. Huxley.
 — London Institution, 6.—Elements of Biology, Prof. E. Ray Lankester.

Science Gossip.

The borings in the Delta of the Nile undertaken by the Royal Society, and entrusted to a detachment of the Royal Engineers by permission of the Secretary of State for War, have now reached a depth of nearly 200 ft. without the solid bottom having been reached, a depth greater than was generally anticipated. A consignment of specimens has lately arrived and is now under examination. In connexion with this subject it is interesting to turn back to the memoirs contributed to the *Philosophical Transactions* in 1855 and again in 1858 by Mr. Leonard Horner 'On Researches near Cairo, undertaken with the View of throwing Light upon the Geological History of the Alluvial Land of Egypt.'

The late Prof. Morris at the time of his death had made considerable progress with a third edition of his 'Catalogue of British Fossils.' Some of his friends have arranged to revise and complete the manuscript, and the necessary expenses of preparing it for the press have been guaranteed by his nearest surviving relative. The editor in chief is Dr. H. Woodward, of the British Museum, and he is assisted by a number of eminent specialists, among whom are Drs. Hinde and Traquair, Profs. Duncan, Rupert Jones, Lapworth, Nicholson, and H. G. Seeley, Messrs. Carruthers, Etheridge, Huddleston, and Lydekker. The Syndics of the Cambridge University Press have now undertaken the publication of the work, which it is hoped may appear in the course of the coming year.

Dr. C. W. C. FUCHS publishes in the last number of *Tschermak's Mineralogische Mittheilungen* his twenty-first annual report of volcanic phenomena. He records 230 earthquakes as having been felt in 1875. Volcanic eruptions were few, and with the exceptions, which were severe, they were generally insignificant.

MM. DE LANDERRO AND E. PRIETO brought before the Académie des Sciences on the 15th of November 'Certain Laws of Chemical Combination.' Their views are peculiar and of great novelty. They consider that chemical combination is produced by a shock between

the particles of each element forming a compound; that the particles are in motion with a certain speed, which is a constant quantity of each body; that the loss of energy between the non-elastic atoms is an equivalent of the quantity of heat liberated by the combination. The ingenuity of this hypothesis will be admitted by most of those who are disposed to accept the doctrine of undulatory motion, but it appears to require much inductive evidence before it can be advanced to the dignity of a theory.

MM. MARCEL DE PUYDT AND SUHEST have discovered in the grotto of Biche aux Roches, near Spy, in the province of Namur, a cave belonging to the mammoth age. The floor of the cavern consists of brown clay, under which is a bed of calcareous tufa, containing remains of the elephant and the deer, with flint implements. Several other beds were discovered below this, containing bone implements carved with rude figures, and two human skeletons with skulls of the Neanderthal type.

THE Essex Field Club has resolved in future to issue its "Transactions" and "Proceedings" combined in the form of a monthly periodical under the title of *The Essex Naturalist*. The journal will consist of sixteen pages per month, but in all probability frequent "double numbers" will be issued, in order to keep pace with the rapid accumulation of papers which have been read before the Club. At its meeting this evening (Saturday) Mr. W. Topley will read a paper on 'Recent Alterations in the East and South-East Coasts of England, with Special Reference to the Essex Coast-line.'

FINE ARTS

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES IS NOW OPEN, 5, Pall Mall East, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. ALFRED D. FRIPP, R.W.S., Secretary.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN OIL COLOURS, Piccadilly, W.—THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION NOW OPEN from 10 till 5.—Admission, 1s. ALFRED EVERILL, Secretary.

'THE VALE OF TEARS'—DORÉ'S LAST GREAT PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the Doré Gallery, 85, New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Precursor,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Pilate's Wife,' and his other great Pictures. From Ten to Six Daily.—Admission, 1s.

NOW ON VIEW.—MR. DICKES'S GALLERY OF OLD MASTERS, 81, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy square.—Examples of Rembrandt and his scholars, G. Douw, Eckhout, De Koninck, De Wet, and Braemer, Teniers, Zorn, Rubens, Van Goyen, Hondius, De Welf, Neefs, Terburg, A. Ostade, Van der Weide, J. Ruysdael, Paul Potter, Correggio, &c. Pictures of known authenticity from important Collections, Two Hundred in all.—By Address Card Daily from Two to Six, and by appointment at other times.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The charm is irresistible of a book like *Well-Worn Roads* (Nimmo), of which the author tells us that it contains no information of use to anybody, is absolutely bare of statistics, entirely useless as a guide to travellers, and unfit to improve the mind of a schoolmaster travelling on the Continent during the vacation and seeking to prepare himself for lectures next season on foreign architecture, mediæval art, or the policy of Charles V. The author is Mr. F. H. Smith, a New Yorker, who, heedless of the proprieties of literature, has disdained to put his notes in order so as to enforce any opinion of his own or of anybody else. Apart from all this, his dashing, light-handed sketches give a much more effective impression of what he who runs may read on the Continent than many opusculi volumes. To say of him that his second name—which we forbear to repeat—is his only misfortune and the sole drawback to his book, is to treat him in his own spirit and to say all the reader has need to know. Mr. Smith saw and doubly sketched—but much better with the pen than the pencil—Amsterdam, Seville, the Alhambra, Dordrecht, Venice, and an anonymous Bavarian monastery.

Some *Essays of Elia*, by C. Lamb, with illustrations by C. O. Murray (Low & Co.), makes us hope the illustrator and publishers will give us the rest, only we trust the stupid

device of a chimney-sweeper may be omitted from the cover. This cannot be the portrait of the "young nobleman" who, fresh from the chimney in Arundel Castle, lay in softest lawn.—*Rip Van Winkle*, by Washington Irving, is a nicely printed volume, with absurdly large margins, issued by Messrs. Blackie & Son. The illustrations, by Mr. G. Browne, are sketches of a moderate degree of merit, and marked by greater tact than care. The best of them is the last, which shows how the resuscitated hero had his beard trimmed by the incredulous, but indulgent barber of the village. There is most wit and pathos in the sketch of Rip's dog coming home cowering and being welcomed by a child.

—*Songs from Shakespeare* (Cassell & Co.) is full of pretty little cuts, which are only not quite good enough for the occasion. This is high praise. When we say that, while he has a pleasant turn for designing neat and pathetic landscape, the anonymous artist has not contrived to draw a pretty woman, the worst is said. The music of several of the songs is given.—In a similar little volume Messrs. Griffith, Farran & Co. have republished Prof. Longfellow's taking ballad called *The Wreck of the Hesperus*, adding a score or so of neat and appropriate vignettes by various artists. The ballad is beautifully printed. The same publishers have issued four little volumes in limp covers: (1) *Spring Songs and Sketches*, with selected verses, old and modern, by good authors, including much celebrated poetry, and enriched with vignettes of no great value, but unquestionable neatness. To the poetry of (2) *Summer Songs*, (3) *Autumn Songs*, and (4) *Winter Songs*, the same remarks apply. The cuts are mostly pretty, but they differ much in value, from the pastorals of Mr. G. Clausen, clumsily drawn and commonplace, the neat floral and figure compositions of Mr. Bannerman, the dainty landscapes of Mr. Mack and Mr. Addison, to the clever *genre* sketches, in little more than outlines, of Mr. L. B. Hall.

Messrs. Gardner, Darton & Co. give out *The Wrath of the Fay*, by Mr. F. W. Home, with vignettised designs in outline by Mr. E. G. Home, who might have drawn his graceful and rather spirited figures with more accomplishment and delicacy. The fancifulness of the fairy verses would be more attractive if another than a doggerel metre had been selected.—*Sir C. Grandison and Solomon Gessner* have sufficient of the interminable letterpress to give passable explanations of impressions from certain plates by J. Taylor and T. Stothard respectively, which, we are told, have escaped the melting-pot, and appear under the auspices of Messrs. Field & Tuer, accompanied by some wonderful criticism on the Academician's art. It is pleasant to see again the elegant designs of Stothard, including the much admired 'Youth's Dream of Melida.' If Cromek's original plate of this graceful thing is still in existence and capable of yielding impressions as good as that before us, we are glad of it. As to Gessner's twaddle, the less said of it the better. The world has long since dispensed with the art of J. Taylor, and does not care for it now.—*From Gold to Grey*, by Mrs. M. D. Brine (Cassell & Co.), is a selection of sentimental verses, mostly marked by good taste and frankness, if not strength, accompanied by numerous cuts of all sorts, mostly nice, while some are pretty and others excellent. The cuts seem to have been "culled" from many sources, but whether they have been adapted to the verses, or the verses to them, is more than we can say. There is nothing to find fault with in either, but the binding is in wretched taste.—*Routledge's Japanese Almanac* (Routledge & Sons) is a smart little pocket-book, illuminated and gilded. The designs are not bad, but they ought to be better. No doubt this is a very low-priced trifle. It would be worth while to produce such an almanac in far superior style.

England, Scotland, and Ireland. By P. Villars. Translated by H. Frith. (Routledge & Sons.)—We have already noticed this large, hand-

somely printed, and copiously illustrated book with the admiration due to its general accuracy, brevity, and good humour. Mr. Frith has translated it deftly and with sympathy. The cuts are, for popular purposes, the same in both versions of the work, and as good as photography, delicate finishing, and choice modern cutting can make them. It is altogether a handsome book.

On Dutch Waterways, by G. C. Davis (Jarrold & Sons), a narrative of a tour in the S.S. *Atalanta* on the rivers and canals of Holland and the north of Belgium, is illustrated by photograph-like engravings (photogravures of a sort), which are not brilliant, and by neat and clear page cuts. Of books of this kind the hackneyed criticism is to say that there was no need to write them. Nevertheless, there remains, as indeed there remains in Fleet Street itself, a world not yet described. Unfortunately Mr. Davis has hardly done his subject justice, and neither saw nor heard what might have been discovered by a more quick-witted and discriminating explorer. In one point he does well—he never exaggerates, as M. Havard, who visited the Dead Cities of the Zuider Zee before him, exaggerated, the perils of voyaging in a *tjalk*, or smack, which is really one of the safest of craft. His first difficulty was about a boat to sail in, and he rightly thought of a Norfolk wherry, with her tremendous sail, her mighty rudder, her wondrous beam, and ample accommodation. Such a vessel he proposed to have towed across to Flushing, and, as many a tug lies idle on the Norfolk coast for weeks together, he reasonably expected to secure one. He found his mistake when a shore loafer at Harwich told him gentlemen ought not to go yachting unless they can afford to pay for it on a scale suggested by the demand of fifty shillings for the loan of a rusty anchor, the fee simple of which ought not to cost more than five shillings. Abandoning the idea of the wherry, he hired the little *Atalanta*, of twenty-three tons gross, at the rate of 50*l.* a month, started across the North Sea on a lucky Sunday night, and duly reached Ymuiden, whence he explored the rivers, canals, and towns, crossed the Zee again and again, and wandered about the quaint islands, which everybody is supposed to have seen, but very few indeed have either visited or studied. Mr. Davis does not pretend to know what he did not know, nor to have seen what he did not see. He judiciously omits whatever may be read in Murray, Baedeker, Havard, and other well-known books. Much that he saw has been almost as often described as visited; but he has a quiet way of putting the reader in a position to look about him, which could not be better manifested than by quoting the following but half-consciously artistic note:

"I am not an artist, but it struck me it would be extremely easy to make a typical sketch of Marken, and other islands of the Zuider Zee, from the sea, thus: draw a straight line for the sea, a curved line will make a flattish hump, like a stranded jelly fish, which colour green. In the middle of this hump, draw a series of zig-zags, which colour red, with a taller and thinner zig-zag in the middle for the church. Then throw in the colours of sea and sky to taste, and there you are. Looked at from ways it will be Marken; back wards, through the paper, Ark; and upside down, Schockland."

Of life and adventure, except of the mildest and smallest sorts, our author saw none, or has failed to describe it. On the whole, although obviously veracious and exact, his book is not lively, although some parts of it are quite worth reading.

Jerusalem, Bethany, and Bethlehem, by J. L. Porter (Nelson & Sons), is handsomely printed and copiously illustrated. The best cuts are due to photographs. That such is the case will appear a subject for congratulation to those who study some of the groups of figures where the draughtsman had to rely on his own genius. It is fair to say of all but the worst of these that we are familiar with even worse things, while some of the better ones are nearly equal to good news-

paper cuts. Dr. Porter, to whom the work is indebted for Murray's 'Handbook of Palestine,' records his impressions of what he saw, read, and heard about the holy sites. Faith did not fail him, or, at the worst, did no more than hint a doubt or two, which he conveys gently and gracefully to his readers. This is as it should be. In addition to his own careful observations on the spot, our author admits ample obligations to 'The Land and the Book' of Dr. W. Thomson, which is another of the publications of Messrs. Nelson. From his point of view, and in order to the completion of his own task, Dr. Porter could not have done much better than take help from his fellow traveller and friend, to whom, by the way, he, in the preface, gives a testimonial. Some of Dr. Porter's experiences must be of old date, for he reckons among those he met in Palestine the late Mr. Thomas Seddon. He has, however, continued to study the sacred sites, and, generally speaking, his archaeological notes on the buildings and sites, about which our knowledge has been wonderfully enlarged of late, are up to date. As to other matters, it is a pity that he so often found a solemn pleasure in the fulfilment of curses, and, even in the well-cursed land of Palestine, saw few signs of blessing. So active is his imagination that a music-girl suggested to him Miriam with a timbrel in her hand, and thus the destruction of the Egyptian host in the Red Sea took shape before his eyes. A mind so impressionable as this helped Dr. Porter wonderfully, even in arid Palestine, and he journeyed comfortably from place to place, attesting at every stage the fulfilment of prophecy. His book, being clearly written and composed of well-arranged materials, both old and new, ought to find a welcome from that large public which recognizes with pleasure the coincidences of modern experience and research with the ancient records and antique remains.

MESSRS. BRADBURY & Co. have done well to publish in a form more convenient than the former reissue—a series of long and awkward folios—the first volume of John Leech's *Pictures of Life and Character*, 1842-1864. Here, quite equal to their pristine condition in the pages of *Punch* in his palmiest days, is a treasury of fun, observation, character, and costume. We should like to have been assured that the 'Pictures' are here arranged in the order of their publication, which, although it is important, we have no means of discovering.

A REPRINT of the late Mr. Thomas Heaphy's inquiry into the verisimilitude of the *Likeness of Christ*, which we reviewed at length some years ago, has appeared desirable to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. The work was creditable to the popular author, but we question the advisability of republishing anything so inconclusive. Mr. Heaphy ascribed a very great degree of antiquity to certain works of art, and on this theory the whole value of his opinions and illustrations depended. The Society declines all responsibility for his views, and if so, why did it publish this book? However this may be, there was no need to give additional ugliness to some of the deplorably hideous coloured plates in the original volume. The book is one of the saddest curiosities of literature, and on that account, to say nothing of the author, it is worth knowing.

NEW PRINTS.

WE have received from Messrs. Buck & Reid, New Bond Street, an artist's proof of a new etching by M. Brunet Debaines, after a picture painted by Gainsborough upon glass—one of the twelve slides or panels used in his famous camera which was exhibited at the Grosvenor Gallery in 1885, and may now be seen at the publishers'. It is called 'Worcester, a Peep between the Trees,' and shows (or is said to show) the towers, spires, and other buildings of the 'Faithful City,' standing on the further bank of the

shining Severn, and craft at anchor or proceeding on their way. The view is obtained between "elegant" groups of graceful trees and extends to a further reach of the river; beyond are ranges of low hills, and above a clear and brilliant sky of late afternoon, laden with splendid clouds, the whole being composed with much skill and taste to make a charmingly brilliant picture, which could hardly be more acceptable in its pretty conventional way. It is supposed that Gainsborough was accustomed to paint pictures of this sort for his camera while he chatted with his friends. An account of the camera may be seen in the Catalogue of the Grosvenor Exhibition. We do not believe for a moment that Worcester is the subject, though Romsey may claim part of it. M. Debaines's etching, with a firm "mossy" touch, is admirable and vigorous.

Messrs. Bousso, Valadon & Co., acting as agents of M. Paul Delarue, of Paris, have published three most acceptable etchings of moderate dimensions and refined sentiment. Two of them, etched by M. L. Gauthier after Corot, are, if a little loose in their handling, inspired with the sentiment of the painter and choice examples of tone-grading of a fine kind, such as Corot excelled in. One of them, called 'The Cottage,' represents the bank of a full, smooth, softly-shining river; on its margin are tall and dense rushes, over which we look to a meadow and two or three small, square, thatched cottages; a group of ashes and some elms stands out against a sky of pale vapours suffused with light. Some comparatively distinct shadows, larger spaces of sunlight, the plumes—for such they are—of the foliage, a man attending a rude boat at the bank, and a shadow-like woman or two are combined in a delightful harmony, as subtly arranged as it is fair: such is this Corot. The other is called 'The Canal.' One of the straight sides of the canal is fringed with slender ashes in a rather formal row, while the other is a bare meadow; a few cottages are seen from between the spindling trunks, with a road, a hedgerow, and a woman; in front is a man in a punt. Although, like the last, this plate has not been laboured, and is not highly finished, it is fortunate in rendering the serenity and delicate tones of the master. It would require a very great deal more work to improve so spirited and good a plate. The third print from the same firm is M. Kratke's etching of 'A Pastoral,' after a picture by M. Jacques, a fine, free, and broad rendering of sunlight softened by slight vapours as seen in a wood, where, under the boughs of a pollard willow and an oak, two young rustic lovers sit. Their sheep have gathered at their feet, while the vigilant dog, attracted by the sound of a strange footstep, watches eagerly. It is very broad, full of tone and justly related light and shadow: an admirable study of sunlight added to a good composition of graceful figures. Of all these plates we have impressions on Japanese paper.

MR. JOHN BRETT'S SKETCHES.

"THREE Months on the Scottish Coast" is the title given to about fifty small pictures, in the gallery of the Fine-Art Society, which Mr. Brett calls sketches, although the least exhaustive of them contains more than twice as much work as suffices for a Scotch landscape by Scotch hands. The collection gains interest from the painter's outspoken, not to say dogmatic, "explanatory essay" prefixed to the catalogue, in which, with a zest and energy which must have been delightful to him, he admonishes the critics for the press who have failed to recognize his intentions and, as he thinks, neglected to study his art. Chief among these unhappy men is one whom Mr. Brett had "the privilege to know" (and whom it is quite easy to recognize, until having "miled the public for many years," he "rested from his labours," and went where fine-art criticism no longer vexes the souls of painters. Mr. Brett, as gratitude binds him to do, seems to recognize

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no fine-art critic but Mr. Ruskin, which is rash, because who can tell when the "Author of 'Modern Painters'" will cancel the obligation by pointing out shortcomings Mr. Brett will, of course, be only too ready to acknowledge in his pictures? Apart from its egotism, this essay of Mr. Brett's is thoroughly well worth reading. Undoubtedly the author spent more time over it than over a dozen sketches; and it is so complete and heartily thought out, is so thoroughly characteristic of him, that all who care for his pictures should possess themselves of it without delay.

As to the sketches themselves, they excel in giving varied effects of light and conditions of the atmosphere, from a fierce wind crushing down a sea of slate that is flushed with crimson and lies under veils of drifting rain, while a company of black tugs are rolling in the billows, in *Arran* (No. 2), to the calmness and serene splendour of sunlit verdure near a plain of pale-green water which creeps slowly with the tidal current in *Arduin Hill* (3). In *The Bones of Ayrshire* (4) we have turbid and shallow billows, and clouds rushing on before the coming storm. A fresh breeze is gathering strength to become a gale in *Arran from Port-na-Cross* (5). The fresh gale of *North-Wester at Port-na-Cross* (10) shows breakers on a stony, barren shore, all the elements of which are capably drawn and made at once historical and expressive. The blue sun-shadows fill the huge hollows of the hills in *Wreck on the Ayrshire Coast* (12), and are as true to nature in colour, modelling, and clearness as in their forms and relationship to the landscape at large. Some of these studies are as poetical as nature can make the subjects, which is saying all that need be said in their praise, and quite as much as Mr. Brett will care for. We do not think he always—or, indeed, very often—chooses poetical subjects or views having that sort of sentiment that appeals to the minds of newspaper critics, whose shortcomings in this respect Mr. Brett can hardly be expected to overlook. It would, however, be difficult to find anything in its way more poetical than *Arran Summer Haze* (18), where the peaks rise through the floating clouds, as through a horizontal screen, to the sky above, while their bases touch the many-dimpled sea. Here we have a subject which is often painted treated with a fine sense of style, searching knowledge of the atmosphere, and beautifully frank, incisive draughtsmanship. No. 15, *Kyle Akin*, is another instance of poetry in nature—white-gleaming, distant buildings and a world of grey shadow between us and the hills. A calm like that of a daydream, with all the charms of colour, softness, and rest, appears in *The Cuchallin Mountains, Skye* (11). Mr. Brett defends himself energetically against the late Mr. Tom Taylor (we believe it is he), who accused him of being a "laborious painter," by showing on this occasion the fruits of four months' work, forty-six paintings, each executed at a single sitting, without any retouching; such is the artist's facility, due to the incessant practice of forty years. What may be called the "moral" of this exhibition and its catalogue appears in the final paragraph of the latter:—

"What I have to assert now as a general truth is, that the out-of-doors world is entirely at the command of the landscape painter, and that if he does not depict it accurately it is not because of the imperfectness of his means and appliances, or the inherent weakness of his art, but merely because he lacks intelligence and information." This is undoubtedly true.

Finest Art Gossip.

On the 7th prox. the members of the Royal Academy will meet to elect a Royal Academician and an Associate.

We have to record the death, on the 13th inst., of Mr. John Henry Mole, Vice-President of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours. Mr.

Mole was seventy-two years of age. We believe he was originally from Newcastle-on-Tyne. He first began to exhibit in London in 1845 at the Royal Academy. In 1847 he was elected a member of the New Society of Painters in Water Colours, and for many years was a frequent contributor to the gatherings of that body, the Academy, the British Institution, and to Suffolk Street.

The Mayor of Lancaster has announced his intention, in recognition of the Queen's jubilee year, to erect in that town an art gallery, combining with it a school of art for the encouragement of art study in the district.

MANY readers who have enjoyed the spirit and humour of M. François Bonvin's capital genre pictures will regret to hear that the painter has suffered the greatest deprivation an artist can experience. He has become blind. A committee, including MM. Meissonier, Bouguereau, Hébert, Detaille, Béraud, Vollon, J. P. Laurens, Lévy, Dagnan, Maignan, and others, has been appointed to promote a *vente de bienfaisance* in aid of the sufferer, who has been painting for forty years.

The death is announced of Prof. Jordan, the well-known writer on Roman topography. Like many of the ablest men in modern Germany, he was of Huguenot descent, and belonged to the French colony in Berlin, and possessed social gifts unknown to the true Teutonic *savant*. He was a pupil of Maurice Haupt, but after taking his degree he found his way to Rome, and there conceived the idea of his great work 'Die Topographie der Stadt Rom.' He paid over twelve visits to Rome, and, indeed, since 1879 he contrived every spring to escape from gloomy Königsberg, where he was a professor, to visit the excavations. His book, however, remains a fragment. He also published the 'Forma Urbis Romæ' and a number of monographs. He further superintended the second edition of Preller's 'Handbook of Mythology'; he edited Sallust, and wrote 'Contributions to the History of the Latin Language.'

THE artistic world of Paris has been a good deal exercised by the action of M. Beauquesne, who has caused the police to seize in the Palais de l'Industrie the bronzes of an exhibitor copied without his permission from a picture in the last Salon. At the request of the Société des Artistes Français the police have likewise confiscated on the Boulevard de la Madeleine certain bon-bon boxes for which the *confiseur* had taken "French leave" to copy portions of a picture by M. Escalier.

THE new archaeological museum attached to the Cathedral of Sion at Tiflis is making rapid progress. All the archaeological treasures hitherto negligently cared for in the different convents of the Caucasus, and notably in that of Helat, near Kutais, will be removed to this building. An instance of this negligence is the destruction by mice of a very precious manuscript written on parchment by the monks of Mount Athos in the ninth century.

ANTOINE BRASSEUR, the picture restorer, has just died at Cologne. He has left his collection of pictures, valued at 400,000 francs, to the museum of his native town, Lille. Brasseur was a foundling, born at Lille in 1819, and educated at the Comtesse Foundling Hospital. The Mayor of Lille went to Cologne to receive the body, and the Common Council has voted Brasseur a public funeral. On the other hand, the Senate of Hamburg has bestowed the honorary freedom of the city upon Mr. Gustav Christian Schwabe, of London, in acknowledgment of his gift of a collection of paintings by English artists, which is said to have cost him over 1,000,000 marks. He has further presented the city with a sum of 120,000 marks towards the necessary alterations in the Kunsthalle for the reception of the pictures.

In the obituary of the week is to be included Prof. Spielberg, an architect of repute in Prussia.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"The Italian Government, instead of following the example of other nations and establishing a school of classical studies at Athens, hopes to co-operate in some way in the same design, and to compass the same end by appointing a resident salaried representative in that capital, who will report on antiquities in the East, conduct researches, and collect inscriptions. It is believed the first holder of this post has been already named."

WHILE engaged in exploring some ancient copper mines at Poli-ton-Krysokon in Cyprus, Mr. Williamson, of Smyrna, has made an important discovery of coins. Of the vases recently found at the other Poli (ancient Idalion) some good specimens have been purchased by Col. Warren, chief secretary on the island, who has done much towards the establishment of the museum at Nicosia, whither the larger number are being transferred.

THE French papers report the intended destruction—notwithstanding protest of the Town Council—of one of the most remarkable monuments of Vannes, the Porte-Prison, which consists of two towers built in the fourteenth century by Duc Jean IV., the great benefactor of Vannes. It is to be hoped that remonstrances, which have been freely addressed to the owners, may yet avail to save these relics, which have done good service in their proper way.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Novello's Oratorio Concerts.
PRINCES' HALL.—The Bach Choir.
STEINWAY HALL.—The Heckmann Quartet.
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The London Symphony Concerts.

THE third of Novello's Oratorio Concerts, which was given at St. James's Hall on Tuesday evening, offered special attraction to amateurs, inasmuch as the larger part of the programme consisted of novelties written for the recent Leeds Festival. The concert opened with Liszt's transcription for orchestra of Schubert's March in E flat minor, originally written as a pianoforte duet. The title 'Funeral March,' however appropriate, was not given to it by the composer. Like the rest of the series to which it belongs ('Six Marches for Four Hands,' Op. 40), it is so orchestral in character that, given a faithful reproduction of the original text, no reasonable objection could have been raised to its being arranged for full band. Unfortunately Liszt's version can only be described as a gross perversion of the original. In the matter of transcription Liszt appears to have been singularly destitute of anything resembling conscience. He has not only prefixed a short introduction of his own to the march, but he has in one place interpolated a recitative passage utterly at variance with Schubert's spirit, while the numerous minor alterations he has made in the text transform the work in some cases almost beyond recognition. Such a style of transcription is utterly unjustifiable under any circumstances. The remainder of the concert consisted of Dr. Stanford's chorus 'The Revenge' and Dr. Mackenzie's 'Story of Sayid.' Both these works were so fully noticed on the occasion of their production at Leeds that our remarks now may be chiefly confined to their performance. Dr. Stanford's vigorous and spirited setting of Lord Tennyson's words was extremely well rendered both by chorus and orchestra, and warmly received by the audience, the composer, who was present, though he did not conduct his own work, being twice called to the platform at the

close of the piece. The audience at St. James's Hall evidently ratified the verdict pronounced on the work at Leeds. In 'The Story of Sayid' the chief soloists—Madame Albani, Mr. Barton McGuckin, and Mr. Watkin Mills—were the same as at the first performance. In his latest work Dr. Mackenzie shows in one respect an advance on his previous compositions: there is more clear and simple melody, especially in the second part of the cantata, than in either 'Jason' or 'The Rose of Sharon.' At the same time it must be added that the composer has not yet mastered the art of writing comfortably for the voices. Some of the choruses are of extreme difficulty, and with a less excellent choir than that which sang on Tuesday they would be found almost impracticable. We must give very high praise to the chorus for their singing in this work. Though not absolutely above reproach, their performance was, as a whole, excellent. The slips in the orchestra were more numerous; but here again allowance must be made for the intricacy and difficulty of the music. The soloists, it is hardly needful to say, were very good, though we must again enter a protest against Madame Albani's foolish and inartistic transposition of her second song. Surely a composer must know best in what key he wishes a piece sung. In the present case, for the sake of showing off her high notes (we can imagine no other possible explanation), Madame Albani injured the effect of the music. We have in time past had *prime donne* who would have scorned to do such things; but the race appears to be extinct. The cantata created great enthusiasm, the composer being warmly applauded in the course of the performance and receiving an ovation at its close.

The Bach Choir has commenced its public operations earlier than usual; but the concert of unaccompanied part-music given on Monday evening was, of course, little more than a kind of prelude to the very important work which the society has taken in hand for the present season. It was somewhat of an anomaly that the programme did not contain a single item by J. S. Bach; but his relative Johann Christoph was represented by a motet for double choir, "Gracious Lord God," the manuscript of which is in the Berlin Library. Its intrinsic value is not great, and in mere effectiveness it yielded to the next item, an arrangement of a fine old hymn, "Es ist ein Ros," by Prätorius. Another interesting revival was a motet, "Alleluia, Christus surrexit," by Felice Anerio, the successor of Palestrina in the Papal Chapel. It must be confessed, however, that in beauty and expressiveness the examples from English composers outshone those of their foreign brethren in art. The madrigals and part-songs of Gibbons, Dowland, and Morley are as fresh to-day as when they were written, and the clever imitations of Pearsall, "In dulci jubilo," and Walmisley, "Sweete floweres," are also full of charm. The choir, under the direction of Dr. Villiers Stanford, sang with great refinement and sufficient power for the room. There was no solo vocal music, but Miss Lucy Stone gave with fair effect Handel's familiar Violin Sonata in A, and Mr. Fuller Maitland played on the pianoforte some virginal pieces by Gibbons,

Byrd, and John Bull, which would have been more appropriately rendered on the harpsichord.

The unique series of performances given by the Heckmann Quartet, coming in the midst of an unprecedentedly busy autumn season, have not received the attention they deserved, but we are glad to learn that they have been as successful as could have been anticipated. The plan of the undertaking has been described, and we must now confine our remarks to the programmes of modern works in which novelties were introduced. On Tuesday afternoon a Quartet in B flat by Goldmark was performed, and proved to be, on the whole, a masterly composition. The first movement appeared on first acquaintance somewhat dry; but the *andante* in F minor is full of expression and pathos, and the *scherzo* exceedingly lively and piquant. Dr. Hubert Parry's Trio in E minor, and a Quartet in A minor by Svendsen, of which we must take another opportunity of speaking, were included in this programme. The concert of Wednesday evening commenced with Raff's Quartet in D minor, Op. 77. This work may be described as vigorous and clever rather than beautiful. The *scherzo*, a kind of *moto continuo* with an episode, is very original, and it was splendidly played and enthusiastically received. In the same scheme were included a Quartet in F, Op. 51, No. 3, by Gernsheim, and Dr. Villiers Stanford's new Pianoforte Quintet in D minor, Op. 25, of which we have recently spoken.

The fifth of Mr. Henschel's Symphony Concerts on Wednesday evening was attended by a larger audience than usual, probably owing to two attractive items in the programme—Schubert's unfinished Symphony in D minor and Wagner's 'Fliegende Holländer' Overture. Gernsheim's Violin Concerto in D, Op. 42, was criticized in some detail when it was introduced by M. Sauret at the Crystal Palace, December 18th, 1880 (*Athenæum*, No. 2774). The performance by Pan Ondricek was far superior, and unequal as the work certainly is, it proved effective in his hands. Max Bruch's rather vague and unsatisfactory prelude to his opera 'Loreley' has also been heard twice at the Crystal Palace. An air from an opera entitled 'Wanda,' by Mr. Charles Thane, was sung with excellent taste by Mr. Iver McKay. Next Wednesday the first morning concert will be given, when some little-known items by Weber, Beethoven's C minor Symphony, and selections from 'Die Meistersinger' and 'Rienzi' will make up an attractive programme.

Musical Gossip.

At the Saturday Popular Concert the principal works performed were Haydn's Quartet in E flat, Op. 71, No. 3; Brahms's Piano Quartet in C minor, Op. 25; and Schumann's 'Faschingschwank,' played by Mr. Max Pauer. Mr. Santley was the vocalist.

BRACH'S Quartet in C minor, Op. 51, No. 1, first performed just a year ago, was repeated on Monday evening. The two middle movements are genial, but as a whole the work is somewhat dry and unsympathetic, and its reception was decidedly lukewarm. Mdlle. Kleeberg contented herself with one of Schubert's impromptus and a waltz of Heller's; and Mendelssohn's Trio in D minor and Corelli's Violin Sonata in D completed the programme. Mr. Henry Piercy's

songs by Bizet and Rubinstein gave some slight additional interest to the programme.

THE performance given by the Royal Society of Musicians in Westminster Abbey last Thursday week was in all respects a success. Although the choir was not perfectly balanced, the contraltos being weaker than the other sections, the rendering of the 'Lobgesang' was, on the whole, very impressive, thanks to Dr. Bridge's skilful direction. Madame Valleria was unable to appear, and Miss Annie Marriott sang the soprano solos as well as the air from 'The Redemption' which followed. Dr. Bridge's setting of the hymn of St. Francis d'Assisi was composed for the Worcester Festival of 1884, and was favourably noticed at the time. The Abbey was crowded in all parts, and we are glad to learn that the Society has benefited considerably by the performance.

WE have on several occasions remarked upon the excellent opportunities which the concerts of the Royal Academy of Music afford for the revival of neglected works of merit, by which instruction can be afforded alike to performers and audience. Beethoven's Mass in C, however, is one of the most familiar of choral works, and it was scarcely wise to tempt comparisons by performing it with a small and ill-balanced choir, as was done at the concert yesterday week at St. James's Hall. Mr. Barnby had doubtless made the most of the force at his disposal, but the result was the reverse of impressive. Perhaps it was from fear of disaster that he took the "Cum Sancto Spiritu" and the "Et vitam venturi" at a singularly slow pace. A fair amount of justice was rendered to the solo parts by Miss Lilly Crabtree, Miss Hannah Jones, Mr. Maldwyn Humphreys, and Mr. Alec Marsh. The programme did not contain any compositions by students; but Miss Ethel Boyce, pianist, and Miss Cecilia Gates, violinist, merit a word of encouragement.

MILLÖCKER'S 'Der Bettelstudent,' which was produced in a perverted shape at the Alhambra in 1884 (*Athen.* No. 2947), may now be heard under better conditions at the Comedy Theatre. The immense success of the work in Germany proves that an *opéra bouffe* may be as popular in that country of serious music as in France or England, though it may be admitted that 'The Beggar Student' is above the average of its class in art merit. The performance by Capt. Bainbridge's company is noteworthy for excellence of *ensemble*, but we may single out Madame Lucy Franklin and Mr. F. Mervin for special praise. The leading soprano, Miss Ada Lincoln, is a vivacious actress, but her singing would be more acceptable if she did not force her voice.

THE Strolling Players Amateur Orchestral Society gave their first concert this season at St. James's Hall last Saturday, when the programme contained Kalliwoda's Symphony No. 1, Mendelssohn's Pianoforte Concerto in C minor (played by Miss Florence Waud), the Overture to 'Zauberflöte,' &c.

THE performance of 'The Redemption' by the Albert Hall Choral Society on Wednesday was quite up to the usual standard. Concerning the choir and the efforts of Madame Albani, Miss Hilda Wilson, and Mr. Santley, nothing need be said; but Mr. Piercy deserves a good word for his rendering of the tenor part. Mr. Barnby was too ready to yield to the demands for encores; and to repeat the Ascension chorus was an act of artistic vandalism for which no words of condemnation could be too severe.

THE new building for the Guildhall School of Music, erected on the Thames Embankment, was formally opened by the Lord Mayor last Thursday week. The building, which occupies an area of 8,000 square feet, contains forty-two class-rooms, and is estimated to have accommodation for 3,000 pupils. The school will be removed thither after the Christmas vacation.

THE Kensington Choral and Orchestral Society gave a concert last evening (Friday), under the

direction of Mr. William Buels, when Mendelssohn's 'Loreley' and Gade's 'Spring's Message' were announced to be performed.

MR. CHARLES DOWDESWELL commenced a series of four lectures, with musical illustrations, on Wagner's 'Nibelung's Ring,' at the Surrey Conservatoire of Music on Tuesday evening. The next lecture will be given on January 18th.

MR. CARL ROSA's opera season at Liverpool will commence on January 3rd, and will last for six weeks. Mr. F. Corder's new opera 'Nordisa' will be produced about January 15th. Report speaks in very high terms concerning the work. Mr. Rosa's London season at Drury Lane will commence on May 2nd, and will be of longer duration than that of the present year.

MR. F. H. COWEN's 'Scandinavian' Symphony was performed at Leipzig on the 6th inst., with great success. The *Tagblatt* speaks of it as a very original work, and an important addition to symphonic literature.

WAGNER's 'Tristan und Isolde' was given, for the first time in America, on the 1st inst., at the Metropolitan Theatre, New York. The chief parts were sustained by Fl. Lilli Lehmann and Marianne Brandt, and Herren Albert Niemann, Fischer, and Robinson. Herr Seidl was the conductor. The reception of the work was most enthusiastic.

At St. Petersburg a new opera, 'Harold,' composed by M. Naprawnik, the conductor of the Opera in that city, has recently been produced.

DRAMA

Gycia: a Tragedy in Five Acts. By Lewis Morris. (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.)

It is an accepted fact that a majority of readers feel disinclination for the perusal of a play. They do not like the trouble of tracking out the plot through the talk and making their own diagnosis of character: if they are not to have scenic impersonation they desire the novelist's canvas of narrative and description. But there exists a minority to whom a good play between the covers of a book is a real dramatic treat; who, perhaps possessing, by nature or practice, in a stronger degree than common, the faculty of inward sight and hearing, receive a sensation of the action quite other than that from only narrative; who are present in the drama of which they read. These persons enjoy the effort of imagination which the majority give grudgingly or not at all, and without which a play to read is nothing more than a literary skeleton. They prefer their partly creative sympathy with the library-shelf dramatist to the comparatively passive absorption in his work produced by the novelist: sometimes, it must be said, they prefer a drama as they knew it from a book, acted to them only in the theatre of their minds, to the same drama shown them in flesh and blood with the realism of the stage—the piece may be well played and well put on, but the way they have seen it within their minds seems the true one. A play meant to be savoured by readers need not, indeed should not, be written with any modifications of dramatic treatment to differentiate it from acting plays. To be sure, he whose play appeals to readers only need not take thought for the mechanism of stage work—for scene-shiftings, for changes of dress, for exits right or left, and the possibility of the carpenters breaking down. But

apart from such practical limits of representation behind the footlights, from which he is free if he pleases, he does not write under different artistic conditions from him whose play is for acting. Granted sound quality—and we are not speaking of productions outside the pale of literature—the plays that act best read best: and plays in which acting quality is for readers' sakes subordinated to poetry, philosophy, historic minuteness, or whatever advantage of non-histrionic composition, are not plays at all, and the readers would get on much better with them if the dramatizing were taken out of them.

Therefore Mr. Lewis Morris's announcement that his readers are to judge 'Gycia' as an acting play was, from the reader's point of view, highly encouraging. It did not surprise us with any new idea of how a play must be judged, but it gave the comfortable assurance that Mr. Lewis Morris, though making a distinction where there should be no difference, was offering us *bond fide* dramatic literature, and not the series of interlocutory chapters which heretics call reading plays. And we hoped for more. Mr. Lewis Morris had shown no marked gift of dramatic creativeness either of incident or character, but his popular 'Epic of Hades' proves introspectiveness and some power of thinking out and elaborating incidents and characters on which his mind has dwelt. His preference for expression by poems of personification indicates that, in his literary nature, there was somewhat of the histrionic temperament. He has the gifts of description and happy selection. Remembering all this, we felt, after the first surprise at finding Mr. Lewis Morris also among the dramatists, that he might by the use of his best qualities already known, and by a bracing of thought and diction likely to be brought about by the frequent call made by the drama for swiftness and terseness, produce a satisfactory play; and that if, in addition, he had indeed lighted on treasure-trove of dramatic impulse in him, he would produce a really good one. But 'Gycia' is not really good: it is not even satisfactory. Mr. Morris has chosen a short strong theme and then weakened it by another. We came to our first reading unprepared by any acquaintance with the story told by Constantinus Porphyrogenitus, but that a heterogeneous story had been intruded was unmistakable. The play divides into two plots. And the second plot is not merely superfluous but so jarring that, if the dramatist had found it in the original story, he should have omitted it for art's sake. Here is one plot:—Asander, son of the King of Bosphorus, marries Gycia, daughter of the Archon of Cherson, the young couple being passionately in love. After two years Asander conspires to seize Cherson and submit it to Bosphorus; Gycia discovers the conspiracy and, in lofty patriotism, denounces it: hence his death and hers. The other plot is the same for the love match, the same for the catastrophe, but with this central variation:—there is an Irene who has been at Bosphorus and there fallen amorous of the unconscious Asander; her brother, Theodorus, has been a rejected suitor of Gycia's: after two years' oddly motivated absence Irene returns and destroys the happiness of the wedded lovers by pre-

tending to Gycia to have been Asander's paramour before his marriage, and to Asander that Gycia had loved and still loves Theodorus. It is bickering and jealousy that bring about the catastrophe; and Gycia, instead of being a high-souled patriot, is a jealous wife with petty spite enough to shut her rival up in a prison in her (Gycia's) private house. One plot or the other might have served—the first for a drama of single firm motive, something on the Greek model; the second for a drama of complex passions and characters—but what shall be said of the dramatic obtuseness of a writer who makes a concoction of the two? And unhappily the welding of the two plots is ill managed, so that the dissonance is perpetually forced into notice.

Want of management is indeed a fault throughout—in stage details as well as in psychological verisimilitude. Some of the stage directions are very amusing from both points of view—notably where a dreary comic old man (a feeble reminder of Polonius and Menenius) is interrupted—no, not interrupted, for he goes on calmly—by a silent interlude of the entry of the heroine in state procession, Irene's betrayal of her passion for Asander, and the departure in confusion of the procession; all thrust in between two consecutive words of the comic old man's twaddle, and apparently exciting no feeling of any sort in the beholders. But want of space prevents our entering into any close criticism. Want of space also prevents our giving specimens of passages of poetic merit in which Mr. Lewis Morris has done himself justice, and which will be read with pleasure. Such passages are plentiful in 'Gycia.'

MR. IRVING's discourse delivered in the University Schools, Oxford, on the 26th of June last, has been reprinted by the Clarendon Press, with a luxury of type and paper not often accorded works of its class. Its matter has abundant interest, with enough of truth and novelty to justify its appearance. It cannot, of course, be maintained that the four actors whom Mr. Irving selects as beacon lights of nature as opposed to artificiality—Burbage, Betterton, Garrick, and Kean—had a monopoly of natural acting. They are, however, assuably actors of the highest eminence, and the view that classes them as the most distinguished among actors of the natural school cannot be opposed. Mr. Irving's sketch merits preservation, and has the more weight for emanating from one who maintains the traditions of which he approves.

Dramatic Gossip.

THE performance of the 'Adelphi' at Westminster School was excellent. The Micio of Mr. Buchanan and the Demea of Mr. Roos were clever pieces of acting. The Syrus of Mr. Barwell was intelligent. The prologue, which was gracefully written, contained a felicitous allusion to the late Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. The epilogue provoked much laughter.

M. RENAN's 'Abbesse de Jouarre' has been produced on the stage at Rome in an Italian version. Madame Duse played the heroine.

THE paucity of novelty which has characterized the present theatrical season has been maintained until Christmas is upon us. Except for the return of Mr. Toole to his own theatre and the appearance on Thursday of Mr. Terry at the Olympic, the only productions of recent weeks have consisted of pieces the interest in which scarcely extends outside purely theatrical circles,

or of those which have been given at morning performances.

Of the pre-Christmas novelties of the coming week, the most interesting, the revival by the Browning Society of 'Strafford,' can scarcely be regarded as other than an amateur performance. A morning performance on the same day at the Vaudeville will show Mr. Felix Morris in a new farce.

The company engaged by Miss Kate Vaughan to take part in the old comedy season at the Opéra Comique includes, it is said, Mr. Fernandez, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Lionel Brough, Miss Julia Gwynne, and Mrs. Billington.

'THE PRIAR,' a pastoral play by Messrs. Comyns Carr and Caldicott, the action of which is placed in the fifteenth century, was added on Wednesday night to the bill at the "German Reeds' entertainment" at St. George's Hall.

Mr. BRANDON THOMAS and Mr. De Verney are authors of a farcical comedy to be given at the Globe when the run of 'The Pickpocket' has ceased.

'BACHELORS' WIVES,' a three-act farce, by Mr. F. Bousfield, was given on Wednesday afternoon at the Strand. It is a poorly constructed work with a commonplace story, the incidents in which have little novelty. The author, Miss Lotie Venne, Mr. Dodsworth, Mr. Yorke Stephens, and Mr. Morell took part in a not very brilliant representation.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—R. W. B.—P. J. B.—C. W. J.—W. H.—D. A. P.—E. B.—W. A.—W. D.—W. R.—received. No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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